

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3638.

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1897.

PRICE  
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SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1897.

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## LITERATURE

*Johnsonian Miscellanies.* Arranged and edited by George Birkbeck Hill, D.C.L. 2 vols. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

WE learn from the preface to these 'Johnsonian Miscellanies' that their production was due to the advice of Mr. Leslie Stephen. There could certainly be no more competent authority on the subject, but, in any case, Dr. Birkbeck Hill was fully justified in supplementing his edition of Boswell's 'Life' with a collection of anecdotes and extracts from works referring to Johnson. Several volumes of this sort have already appeared, and they have always been favourably received. The first, which was published under the title of 'Johnsoniana,' came out in 1776, during the lifetime of Johnson, who denounced it as "a mighty impudent thing," and was particularly indignant that in one of the *bons mots* attributed to him, he was represented as using profane language. The little volume was of no great value, though some of the anecdotes in it were genuine, and were afterwards reproduced in Boswell's 'Life,' but with chastened language and in every way much improved. By far the best of these so-called "Johnsoniana" volumes is that published by Croker. Dr. Hill's selection of pieces is to a great extent the same as his predecessor's, but in every case where it was possible the text in these volumes has been collated with the original manuscript. The most important difference between the present collection of Johnsoniana and Mr. Croker's is that Dr. Hill has taken nothing from Madame d'Arblay's 'Diary,' while, on the other hand, he has reprinted Johnson's 'Prayers and Meditations,' and has reproduced some anecdotes from Dr. Campbell's 'Diary of a Visit to England in 1775.' The two latter pieces were not used by Croker, and it is probable that he never saw the diary, which was only discovered in 1854, and first printed in this country in Mrs. Napier's 'Johnsoniana.' Dr. Campbell was a keen observer, and the extracts from his diary are extremely interesting, though they hardly make up to us for the absence of Madame d'Arblay.

Dr. Hill's explanation of this omission is that he considers her 'Diary' as "too good a piece of work to be hacked in pieces." Everybody will be ready to join in the praises of Madame d'Arblay's 'Diary,' but it is assuredly quite possible to make extracts from it which would in no way lose in interest or excellence by their separation from the main body of the work.

With regard to the 'Prayers and Meditations,' there will perhaps be some differences of opinion as to the propriety of including that autobiographical record in these volumes. To those who wish to form a correct estimate of Johnson's character it is of singular value. There is scarcely a page that does not contain something of deep, occasionally of painful interest. Johnson's innermost life, his secret communings with the Deity, his most private thoughts, his hopes and fears of eternity, are here revealed with startling candour and with indisputable sincerity. With these solemn subjects, however, are mixed up trivial and even grotesque passages which it is difficult to read with gravity. On the first appearance of the volume in 1785 it gave rise to a certain amount of unfavourable criticism. Cowper wrote to the Rev. John Newton:—

"It is certain that the publisher of it ['Prayers and Meditations'] is neither much a friend to the cause of religion nor to the author's memory, for by the specimen of it that has reached us it seems only to contain such stuff as has a direct tendency to expose both to ridicule."

Cowper, however, had at that time seen only extracts from the volume, and was not able to form a fair opinion of its merits. Besides the serious portions of the work, it contains records, which would otherwise have never come to light, of many interesting incidents in Johnson's career. We think that, on the whole, Prebendary Strahan, the original editor, was justified in making public these strange revelations of Johnson's inner life. But if Dr. Hill wished to reprint them, it would have been wiser not to mix them up with the gossip of Mrs. Piozzi and the plain-spoken anecdotes of "the Irish Dr. Campbell." The 'Prayers and Meditations' should have been issued by itself as a separate publication.

We are glad that the 'Miscellanies' contain some extracts from Hawkins's 'Life of Johnson,' which, whatever may be its faults of taste, contains many curious details of what may be called Johnson's "Grub Street" experiences. Dr. Hill was quite right, too, to include in his selection Hoole's account of Johnson's last illness, by far the best description that has been handed down. The article originally appeared in the *European Magazine* for September, 1797. Dr. Hill gives the date as September, 1779, more than five years before Johnson's death. This is, of course, a slip of the pen, but in the table of contents a better title might have been found for the piece than "Narrative by John Hoole of Johnson's end."

It is in these days almost impossible to discover any new material for a collection of "Johnsoniana," but Dr. Hill has managed to find a few unpublished letters, and a copy of verses by Miss Reynolds with corrections in Johnson's handwriting. That estimable lady's ear for poetry seems to have been defective. She wishes to make

"come" rhyme to "prolong," "steep" to "meet," "averse" to "redress," and "breathe" to "praise." Some of Johnson's corrections are themselves not very felicitous. "The springing grass, the circulating air," a line contributed by him to the poem, does not much add to its beauty, but his task was an impossible one.

These 'Miscellanies,' as might be expected by those acquainted with Dr. Hill's methods of editing, are profusely annotated, and some of the notes are of unnecessary length. They are, it is true, rarely wanting in interest, but in many cases they are taken up with abstract discussions which are of little value in illustrating the text. In Mrs. Piozzi's 'Anecdotes,' for instance, the lady tells us that Johnson was famous for his indifference to public abuse. This remark elicits a note, occupying in small print nearly the whole of a page, in which the editor examines the general question of hostile criticism, and gives quotations on the subject from Dryden, Addison, Voltaire, Scott, and Darwin! Sometimes the information supplied in a note is repeated a few pages further on, when the same subject recurs in the text. Yet notwithstanding their length, the annotations in these volumes are not always satisfactory. In the note on Woodhouse, the shoemaker and poet, it should certainly have been mentioned that his long-forgotten poems were reprinted in 1896. In a reference to Johnson's being touched by Queen Anne for the king's evil, Dr. Hill supplies a detailed account of the ceremonies observed during the quaint service "at the healing"; but nothing is said of Johnson's touchpiece, now at the British Museum, and in excellent preservation. There are many allusions in these volumes to the Aston family, and in a note on p. 413, vol. ii., we are told that "the [Aston] family in the main line must be extinct, for there is no Aston in the list of Baronets." If Dr. Hill had referred to Burke's 'Extinct Baronetage,' he would have found that the title expired on the death of Sir Willoughby Aston on the 22nd of March, 1815. We should have been glad, too, if the editor had told us what became of Molly Aston after her marriage with Capt. Brodie of the royal navy. Inquiries at the Admiralty or a search among the wills at Somerset House would probably have elicited some information about this lady, described by Johnson as "a beauty, a scholar, and a wit and whig," and "the loveliest creature I ever saw."

The editor has several notes referring to Johnson's reports of the Parliamentary debates. Dr. Hill appears to share to some extent the common belief that these reports were fabrications, and that Johnson had nothing more communicated to him than the names of the speakers, the side they took, and the order in which they spoke. Plausible evidence has, in fact, been produced of Johnson's own statement that the reports were "the coinage of his imagination." We are, of course, told of Johnson's boasts that he always managed in these reports "to give the Whig dogs the worst of it," and of his subsequent remorse at having practised these deceptions on the public. But these stories, originated in the first instance by Hawkins, and afterwards repeated by other writers on the sub-

ject, must be received with extreme caution. It must be noted, moreover, that these statements, though made by different persons and at different epochs, bear a very suspicious resemblance to each other both in style and language. It is quite possible that on a few occasions Johnson, when pressed for time and perhaps also for materials, may have been tempted to invent a certain portion of the debate; but if this had occurred often it would have been detected by Cave. Among the Birch MSS. at the British Museum are several letters from Cave, which, besides some interesting allusions to Johnson, contain evidence of Cave's efforts to have the debates reported in his magazine as correctly as possible. It is even said that their speeches were sometimes sent to the members for correction. There exist, moreover, direct proofs of the accuracy of Johnson's reports. The subject is fully discussed in the prefaces to the ninth, tenth, and eleventh volumes of Cobbett's 'Parliamentary History.' At the time when Johnson was reporting for the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Archbishop Secker, then Bishop of Oxford, was in the habit of taking notes of the debates in the House of Lords. Cobbett collated Secker's manuscript diary with Johnson's reports, and found that these were generally correct. After a careful examination of the whole question Cobbett came to the conclusion that Johnson's reports were unusually authentic for those times, and that not only the general tenor of the speeches was correctly given, but in many cases the language in which they were delivered.

For a person of his extensive literary experience Dr. Hill appears to be of rather a credulous disposition. In a note in vol. ii. p. 336 he tells us: "It was confidently asserted that Henry Jenkins was born in 1501 and died in 1670, and that Thomas Parr was born in 1483 and died in 1635." We had hoped that the last had been heard of these veteran impostors, whose pretensions were long ago ruthlessly exposed by the late Mr. W. J. Thoms. We should be glad to discuss other subjects alluded to by Dr. Hill in these 'Miscellanies,' but we can find room for only a few concluding remarks. The notes, as we have already stated, are apt to be too lengthy and discursive, but they are always pleasant reading, and Dr. Hill deserves great credit for his diligent efforts to make his text as authentic as possible. It should be added that many of the pieces included in these 'Miscellanies' were originally published without an index, and the excellent one here supplied will be found of especial value by students of Johnsonian literature.

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cartridges, had had their sentences read out to them, been ironed on parade, and sent to prison. That evening a native officer of the author's troop came and informed him that a mutiny would take place the next day. He very properly went to his colonel, and reported what had been said to him. The colonel (Carmichael Smyth) reproved Gough for listening to "such idle words." Meeting the brigadier (Wilson) a little later, Gough told him the same story; "but he also was incredulous." The next afternoon about 5 P.M., while he was dressing for duty as orderly officer, his servants rushed in with the intelligence that there were fires in the native infantry lines and that several bungalows were blazing. Immediately afterwards the native officer who had given him the warning the day before, accompanied by two other men of the regiment, galloped up, shouting loudly for "the Sahib." The native officer said that the native infantry had risen and were murdering their officers, and that his own regiment was arming. He excitedly begged Gough to mount his horse and go away with him. When in the saddle, Gough determined to ascertain for himself what was going on at the native infantry lines. His escort opposed the idea, but nevertheless accompanied him. He found that the information was correct, and was fired at. He then rode to his own troop, still accompanied by the escort. The troop were in a state of wild excitement, and busy helping themselves to the cartridges which they had declined as defiling them. His authority was ignored:—

"Still no attempts were made on my life, thanks to the care taken of me by the native officers, and most especially of my individual friend and his escort. After a time, however, the disregard of my authority changed to open mutiny; there were loud shouts of 'Maro, Maro!' ('Kill him, kill him!') and a few men, chiefly recruits, fired pistol-shots at me, mostly at random, although one shot so far took effect as to pierce the cantle of my saddle. The situation became critical: I was alone, or rather the one Englishman there, and helpless amongst them; when just at this moment I saw the quartermaster-sergeant, by name Cunningham, wildly galloping up, pursued by several troopers with drawn swords. Seeing me he flew to my side; and now my men, being joined by these open mutineers, who were bent on murdering him, also broke into undisguised mutiny. Seeing all was lost, and that my power as their officer was absolutely gone, and acting on the earnest, in fact forcible, solicitation of the better disposed (for they took my horse's head and forced me to leave), we decided to make the best of our way to the European lines. We left at a gallop, being for a time pursued with shouts and execrations; though I do not even now believe that the wish of the men was to take our lives or prevent our escape, for had it been so we could not have got away."

Eventually the little party made a dash through the native bazar, "and got through safely, though bruised and beaten," their pace saving them from more serious injury. Gough then rode to the house of his friend the Commissioner, Mr. Greathed, in the hope of rescuing him and his wife. Being informed, however, by the native servants that they had escaped, and seeing a large mob approaching,

"I made my way, still escorted by my loyal native officer and his two sowars, to the Artillery lines, where, having brought me in safety, they made their final salute and left me, not-

withstanding my earnest entreaties and persuasions that they should remain with me,—the native officer averring that his duty was with his regimental comrades, and whether for life or death they must return to the regiment. And so we parted, after several hours of the most anxious and trying dangers; and for ever—for, notwithstanding all my efforts, I never heard again of my friend the native officer. I knew his name, of course; but though I found out his house, in the Oude District, no trace of him was ever again found, and I could only conclude he met his death at Delhi in the mutineers' camp. A braver or more loyal man I have never met, and, whatever his faults may have subsequently been, in his mutiny against his salt and his military allegiance, all will allow his loyalty to me was beyond praise, and I can never forget him, or how he risked his life again and again to save mine."

It puzzled many people then, and it will continue to cause surprise to the end of time, why no effort was made to coerce and punish the mutineers or to follow them up to Delhi. The European troops consisted of a troop of horse artillery, a battery of field artillery, the Carabineers, the 1st Battalion 60th Rifles, and some artillery recruits. The Carabineers, with the exception of one squadron, was composed of half-trained recruits mounted on only partially trained horses. The mutineers consisted of the 3rd Light Cavalry and two regiments of native infantry, each over 1,000 strong. When Brigadier Wilson, to whom all authority had been virtually handed over by General Hewitt, at length advanced it was too late, and it became evident that the mutineers had gone off to Delhi:—

"It was stated that Major Rosser of the Carabineers—a fine, gallant soldier, afterwards killed at the assault of Delhi—had earnestly implored the brigadier to allow him to take his squadron and a couple of horse-artillery guns and pursue the mutineers—even to the walls of Delhi. This gallant offer was not accepted. It is not for me to criticise the reasons why; but I have always felt firmly convinced that, had it been carried out, Delhi would have been saved. Even if the 3rd Light Cavalry mutineers had arrived before the pursuing force, I believe the moral effect of the approach of the British troopers would have deterred the Native Infantry troops from breaking out, and Delhi would have been saved. This is still my opinion after many years' service, when time after time I have seen the wonderful effect of dash and promptitude, especially on the native mind."

Every one who possesses any knowledge of India and Indian warfare must concur with Sir Hugh Gough. He, however, is incorrect in stating that Major Rosser was killed at the siege of Delhi. He survived the Mutiny many years.

Towards the end of July Hugh Gough was appointed acting adjutant of Hodson's Horse, and lost no time in joining the regiment. He was much impressed by his commandant, and, to quote his own words, was struck in the course of a reconnaissance "with Hodson's marvellous knowledge of the language, and the quick way he seemed to extract all the information he wanted." On August 15th Hodson was sent in the direction of Rhotuk with two troops of the Guides under Hugh Gough's brother, Lieut. Charles Gough, and Hodson's own regiment. On the second day out Hodson came to Khurkowda. On nearing the town he was met by the native officer belonging to Skinner's Horse who had gone on furlough



before the Mutiny, and had not since reported himself for duty, whose arrest and execution by Hodson have been made the subject of severe indictment by Hodson's enemies. The execution of this native has been represented as an act of personal revenge on Hodson's part. It is interesting to find that Sir Hugh Gough is still of opinion that Hodson acted rightly, and that the officer deserved his fate.

Of another much incriminated act of Hodson's, the famous execution with his own hand of the three princes after the capture of Delhi, Sir Hugh Gough speaks as follows:—

"I was not with him on this occasion: the only other British eyewitness was his second in command, Lieutenant C. Macdowell, who was afterwards killed at Shumshabad. But I heard the whole story from him (Macdowell) directly afterwards, and from Rissaldar Mān Sing and other native officers; and his and their undivided testimony was, that as Hodson with his small escort of only a hundred sabres was approaching Delhi, the natives crowded round in such numbers, and made such unmistakable signs of attempting a rescue, that the only step left was their death. As Macdowell said, 'Our own lives were not worth a moment's purchase.' I confess I have never felt anything but regret that Hodson should have taken on himself the part of executioner,—a position unworthy of so brave a man. The wretched princes, cowards and miscreants as they were, deserved their fate, and I have always held that Hodson was right in all he did, only excepting that one false step."

Hodson's famous Horse, brave and dashing as they were, were, according to the ideas of regular officers, utterly undisciplined and untaught, being either recruits or members of the old Khalsa army:—

"They were indifferent riders, as Sikhs usually are (till taught), and at least half of them used with one hand to clutch hold of the high knob in front of the Sikh saddle as they galloped along. They had no knowledge of drill or of our words of command; in fact, all I attempted to teach them were, 'Threes right' or 'Threes left' (never 'Threes about!'), and 'Form Line,' 'Charge.' However, with all their want of knowledge and training, they had plenty of pluck, and their success lay in that, combined with readiness and goodwill for any amount of work."

The marching during the Mutiny appears almost incredible to those who only know our present boy battalions at home. Sir Hugh Gough relates one instance. When Greathed's column was hastily summoned to the relief of Agra, the whole of it, including the European infantry, made a forced march, doing fifty miles in twenty-eight hours.

How Sir Hugh Gough won his Victoria Cross, and the story of the number of actions and hand-to-hand fights he took part in, all this is told in simple and modest language. The following extracts will, with those already printed, be sufficient to give an idea of the gallant author's matter and style:—

"Though their [the rebel] infantry were still in position, the opposition was very slack, and certainly not enough to justify (as it seemed to us all) the long delay in the attack. The leading regiment of our column was the 53rd, commanded that day by Major Payn, afterwards General Sir William Payn, K.C.B., a very fine regiment, who, being mostly Irishmen, were eager to meet their enemy. Meanwhile I received orders to cross the river by a ford and get round the enemy's right flank; and had left for this purpose, and was crossing about a quarter

of a mile lower down, when suddenly I heard loud cheering and a heavy musketry fire, and there [?] then I saw our troops gallantly advancing across the bridge to the assault. It turned out to be the 53rd, who, tired of the delay under fire, and, it was whispered, hearing that Sir Colin had sent for his pet Highlanders to take the bridge, took their bits between their teeth, and without any further orders determined to rush the bridge themselves—which they accordingly did, and with great success. The enemy, once forced out of their position, showed but a poor desultory fight, and, as at Cawnpore, fell an easy prey to the cavalry, who having crossed, some by the bridge, and others, including myself, by the ford, fell on them, and pursued them with such success that we captured every gun they had.....The 53rd were well pleased with themselves, and the result of the fight they had so suddenly initiated. But we heard that Sir Colin was greatly annoyed with them, and after the action rated them soundly for their insubordination. But little did these wild Irishmen care: they had had their fight, and a real good one, as far as they were concerned; and as Sir Colin concluded his speech of rebuke they gave him three cheers, and giving three cheers more for General Mansfield, Sir Colin's chief of the staff (who had formerly commanded their regiment), they quite upset the Chief's equanimity, but at the same time cleared away his wrath."

Among the officers killed in the fight was Capt. Younghusband:—

"A curious circumstance was connected with Younghusband's death. After the battle of Cawnpore he had purchased at auction a very smart helmet, which had been the property of Lieutenant Salmond, of the Gwalior Cavalry, who had been killed at Cawnpore. This helmet a good deal excited my envy and admiration, and as I had not possessed a decent headdress since the Mutiny began, I had asked a friend to buy it for me at the auction of Salmond's effects. But poor Younghusband outbid me. At his sale I was again outbid, and the helmet fell to the nod of Lieutenant Havelock, a nephew of the General. He, too, was killed wearing it; and rumour subsequently said a fourth officer had bought it and had been killed. It was a strange coincidence, and as these deaths occurred quickly one after the other, I ceased to wish I had been its possessor."

The book has no index—a bad fault.

*The Isthmian Library.—The Complete Cyclist.*

By A. C. Pemberton, Mrs. Harcourt Williamson, C. P. Sisley, and Gilbert Floyd. Edited by B. Fletcher Robinson. Illustrated. (Innes & Co.)

Few are the men, and fewer still the women, who do not aspire to become complete cyclists in these days; and no doubt a manual of the art by so able a professor as Mr. Pemberton is sure of a wide circulation. But it may be that Mr. Pemberton knows too much and his assistants too little about cycling for their joint production to be of much use to the average amateur, or, again, it may be that it takes as many authors to make a cyclist as tailors to make a man, for the united efforts of all these four leave many burning questions ignored, and readers may fail to find light upon any of the difficulties which vex their souls.

Mr. Pemberton's share in the great work is far and away the most valuable; the enthusiast will learn by heart his golden words anent racing and training, and the male cyclist who knows a little of mechanics and is dexterous will get several hints about the repair of tyres, spokes, &c. To build

one's own machine is a simple matter according to Mr. Pemberton, and there is no doubt that the putting together of a cycle would provide a wealth of knowledge and experience; but we are disposed to think that this mastery would be bought at the full price of the machine in most cases, and that the average cyclist will do well to get his cycle from a cycle maker.

Writing of the choice of a machine, Mr. Pemberton has many interesting things to tell his readers, and any experienced cyclist would, till the other day, have endorsed his dictum that

"the lowest price at which a really good machine can be bought is about 15*l.*.....and amongst those of well-known make the difference is really small."

Observation had led us to the same conclusion; if you paid 20*l.*, you got 20*l.* worth of bicycle; if you paid 15*l.*, you got 15*l.* worth, no matter to which of the great firms you applied. But

"occasionally a cycle of quite exceptional excellence is turned out. Why this should be so I cannot explain; but that such is the case all riders of lengthy experience will admit. Two machines of the same make, and identically the same construction in every detail, will yet differ in pace to the extent of some miles an hour."

The buyer's fate in this matter is on the knees of the gods, and it is more important when choosing a machine to remember that

"a very slight bending of the frame when the power is applied will cause friction enough to neutralize the gain obtained by reducing the weight of a machine by several pounds";

but at the same time Mr. Pemberton does not disparage the light American machines, and thinks that

"in future years the machine made in America will largely share the home market. If this be the case, the English maker will have no one but himself to thank.....The voice of the public, who, as the buyers of the goods, might well have some say in the matter, is entirely neglected. The Americans are entirely unfettered, and can and will supply anything which may be required.....The best and latest labour-saving machinery is of American design and make; and it seems only logical that the men who can make the necessary building plant should have no difficulty in using it to turn out a faultless machine."

C.T.C. members, whose creed has been formed from the teaching of Mr. Brown, will be surprised to find the Bantam recognized as "*par excellence* the machine for old gentlemen," wood-rims preferred to Westwood, and the curved upper bar recommended for ladies' mounts. Mr. Pemberton holds that a lady's machine should not weigh less than twenty-eight pounds, and counsels all riders, male or female, who wish to ride in all weathers, and to have their machine at home instead of at the repairer's shop, to ride a strongly made mount. On the burning question of the Simpson chain Mr. Pemberton preserves a judicial attitude, and he can show no royal road to the discovery of a perfect saddle. Prudent persons, whether cyclists or not, will rejoice that he is a champion of the brake, but only riders will enter into his

"inveterate hatred of mud-guards.....Every time a machine is taken through an awkward doorway or wheeled down steps one or other of these rattle-traps generally receives a blow, soon

causing it to be bent out of shape, thus disfiguring the machine."

Mr. Pemberton's chapters "On the Choice of a Machine" and "How to Keep a Machine in Good Order" are so valuable that the amateur expects to find his chapter on "How to Ride" a mine of information, but, far from this, the veriest tyro knows all that Mr. Pemberton deigns to teach; fancy riding is ignored, and the past master has probably forgotten that there is any art or difficulty in such details as turning the machine in a narrow lane, or riding through mud or through traffic.

On the other hand, "Belle of the World" regards riding through traffic as a danger faced "only by reckless riders," and is eloquent in admiration of a certain daring lady who

"knows nothing whatever of fear, and with quite unruffled countenance will cross that dangerous wide space between Constitution Hill and Piccadilly, and turn up the hill of Hamilton Place as unconcerned and cool as though she were on one of those beautiful broad level roads in France, where vehicles are so beautifully few and far between."

Traffic must always present an element of danger: accidents occur to those who drive, ride, or walk through it, and also to those who "breast the traffic of the London streets" on cycles. But only in muddy weather does the complete cyclist run a risk greater than is inevitable. Far other is it, however, with the neophyte humorously described in the amusing chapter contributed by Mr. Gilbert Floyd:—

"He will drive his twenty-inch handle-bar through a twenty-eight-inch opening in the traffic stream with the utmost sangfroid, thus allowing four inches on either side between himself and the serious accident that sometimes overtakes him."

Men who have continued to lead active lives since their schooldays find cycling as simple a matter as walking, but with women it is otherwise, and as a rule lady cyclists are very earnest in the mastery of their new art; therefore it is a pity that Mrs. Harcourt Williamson's chapter on "The Cycle in Society" is the only contribution by and for the gentler sex, for who cares to know that "no expense was spared in finishing off General Stracey's machine, which is done in the well-known red and blue of the Guards"; that "Lady Archibald Campbell is generally dressed in drab, and her smart machine is painted to match"; that "Lady Huntingdon has her machine painted green, with primrose lines on it"; or that "Princess Henry of Plesse has the prettiest white machine that ever was seen"? If "Belle of the World" were a cyclist, she would know that the hubs, chains, gear, and saddles of these aristocratic mounts would be of more interest to her readers than their colour.

We turned with interest to Mr. Sisley's chapter on "Rides round London"; its author is well known in the cycling world, and must, we imagined, have much to tell, but his chapter only serves to show that the neighbourhood of London has been well explored, and that the cyclist cannot hope for an undiscovered country within a radius of thirty miles from Charing Cross. But in truth it must be confessed of the whole book that, though it teaches a good deal about

cycles, it teaches nothing about cycling, and that we closed it without having found enlightenment on any one of the difficulties of this great art.

*The Domesday of Inclosures, 1517-1518.* By I. S. Leadam. 2 vols. (Longmans & Co.)

THE Royal Historical Society has done useful work in enabling Mr. Leadam to publish these volumes, even though its funds did not permit of his marvellously laborious studies being printed in full. One must, however, explain at the outset that 'Domesday' is merely a fanciful, if convenient title, derived from the resemblance of the Inquisitions here printed to those on which were based the great Domesday returns of 1086. The agricultural revolution in the early Tudor period is one of which the importance has long been recognized by historians, and a subject which Mr. Leadam has made specially his own. The contents of these volumes are rather materials for its history than such a history itself, and, as such, all but a few special students of the period are likely to find them disappointing. It is certain, however, from the praiseworthy zeal Mr. Leadam has shown in his researches, that when he undertakes a connected history of this great economic episode, he will show a grasp of the materials that is likely to make it final. How wise he has been in his slow advance is shown by the striking discoveries of fresh record evidence, even for this late period, that have been made at the Public Record Office. The Chancery Returns here published were only discovered so recently as 1894, chiefly owing to the author's initiative; while an even later discovery bearing on the subject has been made in two sacks of unsorted Chancery records, "cramped with various documents (as well as with other trifles, such as an old boot), which had remained as they were filled prior to removal from the Tower in 1858." One is reminded of the remarkable find made a few years ago, among our national archives (as recorded at the time in our columns), of some original returns to the great Inquest of Sheriffs (1170), although historians believed that no trace of them survived. It may fairly be hoped that further discoveries will, in due course, be made under the able superintendence of the present Deputy-Keeper.

What Mr. Leadam has done for the present is to publish the extant returns of 1517 for Berks, Bucks, Cheshire, Essex, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northants, Oxfordshire, and Warwickshire, with that of 1518 for Bedfordshire; to these he has added from Dugdale's MSS. in the Bodleian Library the notes they contain on the Warwickshire Inquisitions of 1517-8 and 1549. To the list for each county an introduction is prefixed, and copious foot-notes testify to the author's minute research. The most laborious portion of his task, however, has been the tabulation of the evidence, the difficulties being, as he frankly confesses, almost insurmountable. Comparing the Acts passed in 1489 and 1515, Mr. Leadam points out that the movement he is dealing with began with that consolidation of holdings known at the time as "ingrossing" of farms, which was necessary for farming on a large scale, and then assumed a different

form, namely, the conversion of arable land into pasture. The result, however, of either change was to diminish the number of tenements and to produce a depopulation of the country districts which the Crown set itself to stop. There are, perhaps, few instances in which economic history has so strikingly repeated itself as in the decay of "tenements" in our own times, first by the development of large farming, and then by the present conversion of tillage into pasture owing to the fall in the price of wheat. The operative cause, however, of the latter change under Henry VII. and his son was, as is well known, the rise in the price of wool. One of the points to which Mr. Leadam has devoted special attention is the relative attitude of the lay and of the ecclesiastical landowners, but here, again, it is difficult, as yet, to obtain definite results. Another curious point is raised by comparisons between the price of wool in a given county and the rentals obtained. In this and other matters Mr. Leadam has to leave some problems unsolved, in spite of the infinite pains he has bestowed on the inquiry. In any case the evidence he has brought to light is, if at times obscure, of considerable interest and value.

*Nihongi: Chronicles of Japan from the Earliest Times to A.D. 697.* Translated from the original Chinese and Japanese by W. G. Aston, C.M.G. 2 vols. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

DURING the last forty or fifty years the consular service of the Far East has been distinguished by a numerous band of eminent scholars, of whom too little is known in this country. In the front rank of this company the late Japanese Secretary to the British Legation in Japan has long since earned a place to which these volumes give him a new and crowning claim. The admirable and learned translation and commentary they present is the third that the last few decades have witnessed of the 'Nihongi,' but on the present occasion, for the first time, the whole of that famous history is made accessible to Western readers, Florenz's version beginning with the twenty-second of the thirty books of which the work consists, and M. de Rosny's interpreting only the first two books, dealing with the age of the gods. The last-mentioned translation is an example of patient rather than accurate scholarship, and is not a little marred by hasty and untenable theories.

The work of the German *savant* is of a very different order. It is marked by all the painstaking fulness characteristic of German research, but the scholarship it displays is largely of a futile character, the data being altogether too uncertain and incapable of verification in the almost total absence of monumental or documentary evidence relating to the history itself, to its authorship, mode and time of composition, and to its authenticity. It is true that Iida Takesato, in his enormous 'Nihonshokitsushaku,' or 'Perpetual Commentary on the Nihongi' (of which only a small portion has yet appeared), mentions a number of MSS. of various sections of the work, one of which (containing only the second book) is dated as far back as the tenth century. But we have no faith whatever either in the



authenticity of these documents or in Far-Eastern textual criticism, a branch of inquiry still, and likely long to remain, in its infancy, even in progressive Japan. To Mr. Aston's version we have nothing but praise to accord. We have compared a score of passages taken at random with the *shugé* text used by the translator, and find them absolutely correct; yet these volumes read less like a translation than an original work, not overburdened, fortunately, by the commentary, which is yet full enough to afford all necessary elucidations, and more than sufficient to demonstrate the ample stores of learning from which it is drawn.

'Nihongi' is no more a Japanese expression than Nihon, Nippon, or Japan itself. It is a Chinese title, read *japonicé*, and might be literally translated 'Japan Jottings.' Nor would the expression ill render the nature of the work, which is, in truth, a compilation by various hands, made at various times, and not, we believe, known to exist in its present form much earlier than the close of the sixteenth century. Mr. Aston accepts the current tradition as to the date of its completion or publication (A.D. 720), and the motive and method of its composition. These questions cannot be discussed here, but, for our part, accepting the canons of Western historical criticism as the only true guide in matters of the sort, we are obliged to regard all such traditions as *ben trovato* at the best, destitute as they are, for the most part, of the documentary and monumental confirmation we are accustomed to look for on this side of the world. It is a significant circumstance in this connexion that the 'Kojiki' or 'Jottings of Old Things,' of which an excellent translation by that admirable scholar Mr. B. H. Chamberlain has been published by the Asiatic Society of Japan, is stated to have been completed in A.D. 712, only eight years before the appearance of the 'Nihongi.' Now the story of the compilation of the 'Kojiki' is evidently a mere theory to account for its production in the absence of a pre-existing body of literature. That a prose work of a very heterogeneous character should be taken down from the lips of a person blessed with ever so remarkable a memory is inconceivable. And the compiler who thus "took down" the 'Kojiki' is one of the reputed authors of the 'Nihongi.' This, again, is incredible in any event, for the 'Kojiki' is essentially Japanese in style and matter; the 'Nihongi,' on the other hand, is Chinese in spirit, substance, method, and language. We shall not, perhaps, be far from the truth in regarding many of the *uta* or songs, but not all (probably few of the quasi-political ones), scattered over the pages of both works, as extremely ancient, dating back possibly to the fourth or fifth century, and, likely enough, collected as early as the eighth from living lips. The prose portions of the texts may have been added, in part, as early as the eighth century, in part in later ages; those of the 'Kojiki' representing the views of the more conservative party, those of the 'Nihongi' the opinions of the more progressive elements in the nation, as eager in the earlier centuries of our era to adopt the civilization of China as their descendants are in the nineteenth century

to take to themselves the material civilization of the West.

In the opening pages of his delightful 'Chronicles' Holinshed informs his countrymen that "our Iland" was "parcell of the Celtike kingdom, whereof Dis, otherwise called Samothés, one of the sons of Japhet, was the Saturne or originall beginner"; hence the first name Samothea, changed to Albion by a grandson of Neptune of that time "twenty-nine years after his grandfather's decease," and finally to Britain by Brute, the great-grandson of Æneas, who had killed his father accidentally, and, seeking safety in flight across the seas with a band of Trojans, found refuge on our shores, and there built Trinovant or New Troy (B.C. 1116), afterwards London. Of Holinshed's 'Chronicles' the complete edition, containing John Hooker's continuation, was published only a decade (1587) before the 'Nihongi' was printed, and a comparison of the two works is not uninteresting. Both are mainly compilations; both (if we take the Japanese annals to start, as probably they did originally, either with the accession of Jimmu or with the twenty-second book) begin with traditions, which are largely explanations of names; and both approach historical veracity more and more as they proceed. Of the ease and charm of Holinshed no trace, of course, is to be found in the 'Nihongi,' but it would not be difficult nevertheless to extract from the latter, taken in connexion with the 'Kojiki,' the materials of a mythology and history not destitute of interest nor even of dignity, nor altogether unprofitable to the student of early civilizations. The Samothés of Japan, the first Mikado Jimmu, is, in accordance with the Chinese ideas that underlie the whole of the story told by the 'Nihongi,' bestowed upon the country by Heaven through direct descent from the sun-goddess. He is no foreigner, he is the conqueror of Yamato, but there is no tradition bringing him or any of the earlier heroes from beyond the seas; neither myth nor tradition, in fact, is extant connecting the people or rulers of Japan with the Asian continent. Yet it is almost certain that at some period Korean or other adventurers from the West obtained a footing in the country, all memory of whose enterprise must have died out by the time the earliest of existing traditions were formed, and it is not, therefore, improbable that the date assigned by Japanese historians to the conquest of Yamato by Jimmu (B.C. 660) is founded upon some vague memory of a real settlement long before the Christian era.

The reigns of Jimmu—Kami Yamato Iharebiko, to give him his proper Japanese name—and his successors for a thousand years occupy nearly half the thirty books of the 'Nihongi,' the last twelve of which record the events of the hundred years immediately preceding the alleged date of the completion of the work. How far these chronicles are history it is difficult to say. The earlier books seem to be, in the main, a *refacimento* of the 'Kojiki' on Chinese lines; the later, and especially the last twelve books, are perhaps more trustworthy. But the whole work is too manifestly an imitation of Chinese history to be received save with the utmost caution, as an account, or rather a theory, not so much of

the origins of the Japanese state as of the beginnings of the Mikadoate. Not improbably the personal details given of the reigns of successive emperors, which to the compilers would appear the most important among the matters they had to deal with, are set forth with a certain accuracy altogether lacking to the more serious portions of the narration. The 'Nihongi' scarcely attempts to give a history of Japan in a Thucydidean sense. The bare traditions, for instance, are presented of the introduction of Buddhism and of Chinese civilization without comment or explanation, without even the slightest analysis of the traditions with a view to ascertain what historical truth they might contain. We know that between the beginning of the Christian era and the fifth century the letters and civilization of China became familiar to Japan, but we know little more. Not much is said of the political relations between the two countries. The ordinary theory that the arts and learning of China were introduced by way of Korea can only be partially true. At all events, they were not introduced by Korean intermediaries, for the pronunciation of the Chinese characters adopted in Japan is not Korean, but a close imitation of the dialects spoken in the two Chinese states Wu and Honan. Nearly two-thirds of the vocabulary of modern Japanese—of the polite language, at least—is Chinese, and this fact indicates a prolonged and extended intercourse with the Middle Kingdom in the earlier centuries of the Christian era, of which relatively few traces appear in native histories. Of Korean words and expressions, on the other hand, exceedingly few seem to have found their way into Japanese. Yet during the whole of the period covered by the later books of the 'Nihongi' intercourse with Korea was considerable and continuous. But we find no hint of any Korean origin of the Japanese state; such a theory is not stated and scouted, but is not stated at all, either in the 'Nihongi' or in any other Japanese work, or even in the 'Tong-Kam,' the principal Korean history. Nevertheless in the veins of the nobility of Japan a very large proportion of Korean (and Chinese) blood must run. According to the 'Seishiroku,' a sort of peerage of Japan, said to have been compiled in A.D. 814, we learn from one of Mr. Aston's valuable notes, fully a third of the Japanese nobility traced their descent from Korean or Chinese ancestors in nearly equal proportions. Up to the eighth century, and indeed long afterwards, the whole foreign policy of Japan had reference to Korea, and Korea alone. But it is most difficult to say what that policy was. It was not a policy of conquest, nor was it a dynastic policy. There were embassies described as tributary to Japan in the 'Nihongi,' as tributary to some Korean state in the 'Tong-Kam.' It would almost appear that what political relations there were existed less between Korea and Japan as entities than between Koreano-Japanese clans or parties on either side of the intervening narrow seas. On the whole, from an early date, Japan, though a later recipient of Chinese civilization, seems to have been the dominant and more advanced state.

Of the extension of the borders of Yamato no connected account is given. In the eighth

century most of the north and east of the main island (Hondo) was still occupied by Ainu tribes, and frontier colonies were established to prevent incursions of the barbarian *yemishi* into the settled districts. Mr. Aston, as long ago as 1880, exhibited at a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan the rubbing of a stone at Taga in Sendai, bearing the date sixth year Tempei Hōji (A.D. 762), and recording, *inter alia*, the distance of the Yezo (Ainu) frontier as 120 (Chinese) *ri*—about fifty miles—from the castle of Taga, which had been built some thirty-eight years previously.

But the 'Nihongi,' whatever its scientific defects, together with the 'Kojiki,' has formed, and to no slight extent made, the history of Japan. To these two books, indeed, the success of the Restoration movement in 1868 may be, in large measure, attributed. They declared the Shinto theory of the divine and autochthonous nature of the Mikadoate, and gave it a concrete historical shape and sequence that has contented the Japanese mind for more than a thousand years, and is still accepted as a true presentment of the origins of the Japanese state. The 'Nihongi' added the Confucianist idea of the mutual duty of ruler and people to the religious notion of a direct celestial ancestry of the former, and thus satisfied both piety and philosophy, while it vindicated the claims of Japan to a possession of the only civilization known in the Far East, and put the island-empire on an equality with the great Middle Kingdom. In such a scheme the military despotism of the Shogunate had no place, and fell the moment circumstances allowed the theoretical opposition it had scarcely sought to overcome to take a concrete form.

It is amusing—and instructive too—to compare the recent declaration of war against China and Korea with many similar documents set forth in these volumes. In tone, and even in phraseology, the manifestoes of the Japanese Foreign Office in the earlier centuries of our era bear a marvellous resemblance to those of its successor in the nineteenth century. Both give voice to the same lofty arrogance and moral superiority, the same expressions of the necessity to put the Korean state right, the same conviction that it is the duty of Japan to do this, and the same sorrowful perception of the malignancy of an opposition that can only be met by force.

With Mr. Aston's admirable version of the edict of the Emperor Kōtoku (Filial Virtue)—an eloquent summary of Chinese political philosophy, and a good example of the best manner of the 'Nihongi'—we may fitly close this review:—

"Going back to the origin of things, we find that it is heaven and earth, with the male and female principles of nature, which guard the four seasons from mutual confusion. We find, moreover, that it is this heaven and earth which produces the ten thousand things. Amongst the ten thousand things, man is the most miraculously gifted. Among the most miraculously gifted beings, the sage takes the position of ruler. Therefore the sage rulers, viz., the emperors, take heaven as their exemplar in ruling the world, and never for a moment dismiss from their breasts the thought of how men shall gain their fit place."

A more complete and, in the absence of inductive science, a more satisfying solution

of the triple problem of heaven, earth, and the man, it would be difficult to conceive than this eminently Chinese answer to the great enigma.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*A Trick of Fame.* By H. Hamilton Fyfe. (Bentley & Son.)

'A TRICK OF FAME' is—O word of fear!—a political novel, and nearly as dull as are all but first-class novels of that kind. It is written with an appearance of labour and care rather than with elegance. It is about the Parliamentary tactics of the Labour party, and it has the fatal defect—the ruck of books about Radicals and their operations often have it—of being radically uninteresting. It is well for those who can think otherwise, and for the author. The career of Hewlett, who from a Socialistic millhand becomes a private member, and then holds an appointment as Labour Minister, shows some observation and knowledge. The author's sympathies are not all with the "progress party." Neither Hewlett nor the rest of the people in the story seem to develop consistently and on the lines of character at first laid down for them. One and all appear inconsistent—not inconsistent in the sense of common human inconsistency so much as that they have an insufficient supply of tenacity and backbone. They either tail away to nothingness or, for no manifest reason, become quite different people. Nothing in the shape of an over-weening interest in their fate helps one to forget their discrepancies and incoherencies. The book suggests that it might have been better, yet individually it does not suggest much promise, though the author is said to have written a more successful story. The study of Lady Beatrice and "le hig' life" generally is poor, and quite below the average of such things.

*The Romance of the Golden Star.* By George Griffith. (White & Co.)

THE process of restoring a mummy to life is increasingly popular with novelists. George Griffith relates a story of revolution in Peru to-day, where the hero is brought to life after having been embalmed (without the removal of the intestines) in 1532. The mummy is that of an Inca prince who in 1897 (if we follow the author's chronology) restores to South America a native—that is a non-European—empire, which extends from "north to south and from the great rivers of the east to the Sea of the Setting Sun," now called the Pacific. It is carefully written and even exciting; but we feel bound to confess that it is more likely to interest young readers than old. The illustrations are good, and the love story essential to such compositions is adequate.

*Our Wills and Fates.* By Katharine Wylde. (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)

THE plan of Katharine Wylde's story is good—for many purposes the best plan that a writer of fiction can adopt. There are two plots: one that is woven and unravelled in the narrative itself, and another that is (to use a word of Southey's coinage) ante-initial. The ante-initial plot would have been melodramatic if we had been called upon to watch its development in a dozen or twenty

chapters of actual story-telling, for it is a question of intrigue, and murder, and judicial blundering, with the more or less inadequate motives which melodrama almost inevitably implies. But this plot is merely indicated; it is the yarn of unspun silk out of which the author sets herself to draw her strands for careful weaving. In other words, Katharine Wylde has posed a few strong and roughly pictured incidents in order that she may show her characters, especially her hero and heroine, acting under the influence of the facts which determined their lives. And she shows this well. On the whole, her character drawing is accurate, and her writing natural, bold in conception, full of spirit and delicacy. One can accept her story as she tells it, and praise it without overpraising. It is not quite in the grand style of fiction, but it is good, for the characters stand out, the motives are abundantly clear, the conversation is often clever and sometimes witty. There is much in 'Our Wills and Fates' that will please a discerning reader.

#### THREE SCOTTISH CLUB BOOKS.

*Miscellany.* (Edinburgh, Scottish History Society.)

*Scotland and the Commonwealth.* Edited by C. H. Firth. (Same Society.)

*Wariston's Diary, Mar's Legacy, &c.* (Same Society.)

IN view of its singular success it were superfluous to praise the Scottish History Society, single volumes of whose publications have already at public auctions brought twice, even thrice as much as a whole year's subscription. Yet we would suggest to its editors that every old manuscript is not necessarily interesting and valuable. One document may be fairly readable, and yet possess little or no value; another may be valuable, but profoundly dull; and a third may have neither value nor interest. Such a one is the *Diary of the Rev. George Turnbull (1657-1704)*, minister of Alloa and Tynninghame, which takes up one hundred and fifty pages of the 'Miscellany.' One knows that in Scotland there must have been roughly five million sermons preached since the Reformation, but there can be no possible reason why entries like these should be inflicted on students of history:—

Deer. 19th, 1697.—Lect. on deut. 2; preacht on luke 15, 20, etc.

26th.—Lect. on deut. 3; preacht on ditto.

Janry. 2, 1698.—Lect. on deut. 4; preacht on ditto.

9th.—Lect. on deut. 5; preacht on ditto.

16th.—Att Sterlin lect. on 2 cor. 5 to v. 10, on which I preached all day.

At the waste of a good many hours we have gone through the diary carefully; there is scarcely one item in it that was worth preserving. It is both over-edited and under-edited—over-edited according to a judicious dictum on p. 451 of the same volume, and under-edited in that it leaves in obscurity what is meant by "twelve patagons." On the other hand, the 'Library of James VI., 1573-83, from a MS. in the Hand of Peter Young, his Tutor,' edited by Mr. George F. Warner, of the British Museum, is a real contribution to bibliography and to our knowledge of the modern Solomon. Mr. Gardiner will have it (we never could tell why) that James did not speak Scotch; he certainly spoke it in boyhood, for here among other entries scribbled by him on a fly-leaf is "They gar me speik latin ar I could speik Scotis." Then there is a traditional account, written down as late as 1792, of Montrose's flight from Carbisdale, according to which he took refuge with a farmer, John Milbourne, and was hidden by him in a broken trough under some litter. A small party of his enemies came in quest of him, and



"one of them in a kind of frolic cried, 'What is there?' and immediately run into the mud, and jobbed his sword between the Marquis's legs, but, concluding he was not in so filthy a thing, did not run in his sword a second time; but proceeded with the party to the house, and examined every room and place about it, behaving with great insolence and cruelty in running their swords in the beds, and after eating and drinking what they pleased to seize, they departed in the morning from it, but not without violent threats to him and his family, if it should ever appear he had secreted the Marquis. The house was so situated that they could see any passenger for near a mile round it; so that soon after they were gone, he placed a faithful person to look out, and give timely notice if he should observe anybody coming towards it, and then took the Marquis out of the trough, when he found him all over in a violent perspiration, who exclaimed in tears, 'O! my dear friend Milbourne, I never knew I was a coward before; I endangered the lives of you and yours, in the manner I have done, to save my own.' And said he was, however, determined never to do the like again to avoid death, of which, he thanked God, he was not afraid."

Browning's 'Clive' comes at once to mind. In the same series of 'Civil War Papers' the punctuation in a French memorial on p. 150, lines 13-15, is so faulty as to render the passage almost unintelligible; on p. 157, *ie conservancy* is mistranslated 'I have kept,' and *du tout*, "altogether." Three 'Papers about the Rebellions of 1715 and 1745,' edited by Mr. H. Paton, offer a good many curious jottings. We see old Brigadier Macintosh "looking with a grim countenance"; General Foster's god-mother "giving him two or three boxes on the ears, and calling him a rebel and a popish toole, which he took patiently"; the rebel "gentlemen-soldiers trimming themselves up in their best clothes for to drink a dish of tea with the laydys of Lancaster"; and the Edinburgh banker who, Prince Charles having started for Derby, "din'd at home *solus*, began to compose some lines, paid a visit at Mr. Kinloch's, finish'd my composition."

Mr. Firth's 'Scotland and the Commonwealth' consists of nearly three hundred letters and papers relating to the English government of Scotland from August, 1651, to December, 1653. An allowance of four hundred and odd pages seems on the face of it excessive for less than two years and a half; and examination convinces us that three-fourths of these documents would have been much better given in *précis*: not a few might have been clean omitted. When letters from Lilburne to Cromwell begin, "I have nott any thing considerable to acquaint your Excellency with" or "I have little to acquaint your Lordship withall," one is apt to suspect the importance of these letters; the suspicion is thoroughly justified. *Mémoires pour servir* are all very well, but these can serve only the purpose of a narcotic. Yet one has to wade through them, for Mr. Firth, who must have studied them as no one will study them afterwards, seems in his introduction purposely to abstain from indicating what there is in them new and curious. That Dunnottar Castle had its own breed of hawks is, we believe, quite new; and so, too, certainly is the statement that in 1651 there were

"about an hundred people of severall nations, call'd heere by the name of Egyptians, which doe att this day ramble uppe and downe the North Highlands, the cheifest of which are one Hause and Browne; they are of the same nature with the English Gypsies, and doe after the same manner cheate and cossen the country."

Then Mr. Firth might well have directed attention to three uses of the word "Tory" in 1651-53 (pp. 240, 243, 337), all earlier than any on record in any of the current works of reference. But Mr. Firth has a trick of leaving his readers to pick their own plums, and themselves to solve any difficulties. Thus, when he writes that "Argyll retired to Carrick" (p. xlviii), he leaves them to infer that Carrick in Ayrshire is meant, whereas surely it must be Carrick Castle on Loch Goil. Again, what is one to make of Lilburne's writing to Cromwell

that on Friday last he marched (apparently from either Glasgow or Dumbarton) "within 160 miles of the Marq. of Argyll's house att Inverara"? For Inveraray is only sixty-two miles from Glasgow and forty-six from Dumbarton; all that we can feel sure of is that something is wrong here. Argyll is the one man on whom this volume sheds light; it sheds it chiefly on his dark duplicity. It illustrates also the witch hunt in Scotland, and shows the English commissioners to have been years in advance of their Scottish contemporaries, who had tortured four of six witches to death by hanging them up by the toes and making two Highlanders whip them.

"After which they set lighted candles to the soles of their feet, and between their toes, then they burnt them by putting lighted candles into their mouths, and then burning them in the head. .... The judges are resolved to inquire into the business, and have appointed the Sheriffs, Ministers, and Tormentors to be found out, and to have an account of the ground of the cruelty. The judges inquired of the neighbours concerning these women, who report them to be of a very honest and civil conversation. Another woman that was suspected (according to their thoughts) to be a Witch, was kept 20 dayes and nights with bread and water, being stript naked and laid upon a cold stone, with only an hair-cloth over her. Others had hair-shirts dipt in vinegar put on them to fetch off their skins. It is probable there will shortly be more of this kind of Amboyna usage, but here is enough for reasonable men to comment upon."

Mr. Firth might have commented on "this kind of Amboyna usage"; it refers, we imagine, to the Dutch treatment of the English settlers at Amboyna in 1623, for which Cromwell exacted recompense a year after the date of Clarke's letter. It is difficult to think on the whole that Mr. Firth has done justice either to himself or his documents.

The third book on our list contains two items of especial interest. 'Lord Mar's Legacy,' edited by the Hon. Stuart Erskine, is a paper addressed to his son in 1727 by the Jacobite Earl of Mar, who was a Jacobite only by force of circumstances. It consists partly of a vindication of his own past career, and partly of advice for his son's conduct, but is mainly a scheme for the reconstitution of the northern kingdom, under which—a restoration effected and the Union repealed—Scotland should have a septennial Parliament of its own; the Church government should be Episcopal, in place of "the sower Presbyterian Church government which enervates the minds of the people"; two thousand or fifteen hundred regular troops should be kept on foot, and the Highlanders be "moddled into regiments, to the number of fifteen or sixteen thousand men"; five thousand Scots troops should always serve in France, a thousand of whom should after the first three years return yearly to Scotland and be replaced by a like number; Edinburgh should be extended and improved; a canal should be made from the Forth to the Clyde, &c. Mr. Erskine has done his task well, but on one point he is certainly wrong. "Mr. Campbell of Glendarull," Mar writes, "had the misfortune to have many enemies when alive, occasioned by his having been unluckily engaged in that affair of Beaufort or L<sup>d</sup> Lovat's plot"; and that plot Mr. Erskine identifies in a foot-note with "Lord Lovat's infamous outrage on the person of the mother of the Baroness of Lovat." The said outrage was perpetrated in 1697; with it Glendarull had nothing whatever to do, but he was implicated in Lovat's so-called "Queensberry Plot" (1703). Over another point we own ourselves nonplussed. "With regard to the Legacy," says Mr. Erskine, "it is here printed in its entirety for the first time. Sir Walter Scott, however, would seem to have perused it, since in his 'Tales of a Grandfather' he remarks that the leader of the Rebellion of 1715 was more successful in his schemes for improving the capital of Scotland than he was in those for the alteration of her government."

Now, what our authority was we fail to remember, but for years we have been familiar with the fact that the idea of the New Town of Edinburgh originated with Mar; in our review of Mrs. Oliphant's 'Royal Edinburgh' (*Athen.*, December 27th, 1890) we noted the omission of "the Jacobite Earl of Mar, to whose suggestion the New Town owes its being." Anyhow, the details of his scheme first published here are decidedly interesting—the building of the North Bridge across the Norloch, the formation of a long street with gardens sloping down to the Norloch, the building of houses not "so monstrously high as they are now" (alack for the threatened hotel!), and so forth.

The 'Letters written by Mrs. Grant of Laggan concerning Highland Affairs and Persons connected with the Stuart Cause' are edited by Mr. J. R. N. Macphail. They would well have stood somewhat fuller editing. For instance, we would gladly learn more of that "MS. copy written by Prince Charles of the History of his Campaigns in Scotland in 1745," which Sir John Macpherson had access to at Rome in 1792; is it or is it not among the Stuart Papers at Windsor? And the very full narrative of the betrayal of the old Marquis of Tullibardine by his kinswoman's husband and father-in-law, the Buchanans of Drummikill, how much that would have gained by a few brief foot-notes culled from 'The Lyon in Mourning' (i. 282-3), Chambers's 'History of the Rebellion' (chap. xxv.), and especially Mr. Guthrie Smith's 'Strathendrick' (p. 321)! The pedigree in the last-named work gives no hint of the treachery, but it strangely corroborates Mrs. Grant's account of the shameful extinction of the race of Drummikill—by the death of the young laird before his father in 1749, of his son unmarried in 1768, and of the young laird's brother in 1780, leaving only a natural daughter.

#### SHORT STORIES.

THE sub-title of Mr. Grant Allen's book *An African Millionaire* (Grant Richards) explains its contents. A dozen "episodes in the life of the illustrious Colonel Clay" practically constitute twelve short stories illustrative of as many different methods employed by a swindler for extracting money out of the pockets of a millionaire. The reader comes in contact with the same people in each story, namely, the swindler, the victim, the victim's brother-in-law and secretary, and various female relatives of these persons; but the narratives cannot be said to constitute a novel. The collection of stories is interesting and ingenious, and suffers only from the disadvantage that the reader has had enough before he has finished with the volume. All are well written and show careful composition. The best is that which recounts how the millionaire after being repeatedly swindled wrongly accuses an honest man of endeavouring to sell him a forged "old master"—for the painting is finally found to be genuine. With some allowance for literary effect, few of the "episodes" can be challenged as impossible events in a millionaire's life. The book may be recommended as congenial literature for the approaching holiday season.

*Blind Larry: Irish Idylls.* By Lewis Macnamara. (Jarrold & Sons.)—Some fifteen years ago, when the Land League ruled Ireland and there was but one Irish Parliamentary party, a German waiter in a Dublin hotel was asked how he liked Ireland. He waxed warm in praise, but ended with the qualification, "Nur muss mann in Acht nehmen nicht geschossen zu werden"; and the Ireland of Mr. Macnamara is as the Ireland of that waiter, a charming place to live in if you take care not to get shot. The public have always coupled shooting with agrarian difficulties; but Mr. Macnamara's characters (delightful in all other ways) do not hesitate to shoot, or to bash in the brains of, inconvenient neighbours and rivals in affairs of the heart;

and in the chronicles of this little village of Gurteen there are three successful murders, two attempts to murder, and a nocturnal raid with threat to murder, to say nothing of death by accident; indeed, to die of old age or of bodily illness must be quite an exceptional fate in the little village on the Atlantic coast. But in spite of this serious drawback Gurteen wins the reader's heart, for Mr. Macnamara tells its story with kindly irony and gentle humour, and by dint of liking its inhabitants himself, he makes his reader like them. The great charm of the book is an atmosphere of romantic melancholy that well suits the wild rocky scenes in which the comedies and tragedies of Gurteen are acted; the stories are well conceived and skilfully told, but they are handicapped by their unfortunate resemblance to other Irish idylls which, though dealing with incidents more commonplace and more convincing, were as picturesque and pleasing as these.

#### ECCLIASTICAL HISTORY.

*The Christian Ecclesia: a Course of Lectures on the Early History and Early Conceptions of the Ecclesia, and Four Sermons.* By F. J. A. Hort, D.D. (Macmillan & Co.).—The title of this work indicates clearly the spirit in which it has been thought out and written. Dr. Hort uses the word "Ecclesia" in order that he and his readers may be free from the prepossessions which the word "Church" might bring with it. The book is pervaded by the earnest desire to get at the exact conception which the early Christians had of the Ecclesia, its functions and its officials. It is thoroughly impartial and independent. Dr. Hort possessed the kind of scholarship that was requisite for the task. He quotes the passages from the New Testament in the form which the best MSS. warrant, and he explains the peculiar Greek words that occur in them in harmony with the results of recent scholarship and an accurate knowledge of the Greek of the period. The book is an admirable illustration of how inquiries into early Christian thought should be conducted. Dr. Hort's method is to go over the books of the New Testament, selecting, explaining, and bringing out the full force of the passages that refer to the Ecclesia. He has done this exhaustively for most of the books, and the only books which he has not discussed fully are the Epistle to the Hebrews, the Second Epistle of St. Peter, and the Apocalypse. He pleaded want of time as his excuse, but probably he felt that their doubtful position in the early canon rendered them less important. Dr. Hort believed that the books of the New Testament which he examined are genuine, and that the historical books especially contain absolutely authentic accounts of the transactions which they record. A different opinion would modify some of the results at which he arrived. Dr. Hort's thirteenth lecture is entitled "Brief Notes on Various Epistles and Recapitulation." From this chapter we select two passages. The first contains the general conclusions which he obtained from his inquiry:—

"In the Apostolic age we have seen that the offices instituted in the Ecclesia were the creation of successive experiences and changes of circumstance, involving at the same time a partial adoption first of Jewish precedents by the Ecclesia of Judea, and then apparently of Judæan Christian precedents by the Ecclesia of the Dispersion and the Gentiles. There is no trace in the New Testament that any ordinances on this subject were prescribed by the Lord, or that any such ordinances were set up as permanently binding by the Twelve or by St. Paul or by the Ecclesia at large. Their faith in the Holy Spirit and His perpetual guidance was too much of a reality to make that possible."

The second extract contains the practical application to be made from his conclusions:—

"In this as in many other things is seen the futility of endeavouring to make the Apostolic history into a set of authoritative precedents, to be rigorously copied without regard to time and place, thus turning the Gospel into a second Levitical Code.

The Apostolic age is full of embodiments of purposes and principles of the most instructive kind; but the responsibility of choosing the means was left ever to the Ecclesia itself, and to each Ecclesia, guided by ancient precedent on the one hand and adaptation to present and future needs on the other. The lesson-book of the Ecclesia, and of every Ecclesia, is not a law but a history."

The editor has printed four sermons in addition to the lectures. We think that these, though good and not entirely inappropriate, had better have been omitted. The lectures form a complete subject in themselves and illustrate a method, and should be kept quite distinct from sermons, which do not partake of the nature of investigations, but are mere expositions. The book can be strongly recommended to all students of early Church history.

*The Church of the Sixth Century*, by Mr. William Holden Hutton (Longmans & Co.), consists of six lectures which the author delivered last year at Trinity College, Cambridge, in the capacity of Birkbeck Lecturer in Ecclesiastical History. We congratulate Mr. Hutton on his choice of a subject which is highly important and still offers a considerable field for research. The ecclesiastical activity of Justinian may be regarded from two distinct points of view. It may be considered in connexion with his secular policy, or it may be studied in relation to the previous and subsequent history of the Church and judged by a purely theological standard. Mr. Hutton naturally treats the subject from the latter point of view. He is animated by an ardent admiration for Justinian, and the key-note of his lectures is the ecclesiastical importance of Constantinople in the sixth century. He shows clearly and discreetly how ill the Papacy came out of the controversies of the time, and is able to justify his polite strictures by the admissions of the Abbé Duchesne. He relates succinctly and lucidly the story of the tergiversations and shufflings of Vigilius. He devotes much space to an indictment of the generally received view that Justinian fell into the Aphthartodocetic heresy in the last years of his life. Mr. Hutton's style is throughout bright and pleasant; he says hard words of no one. But we like him better in his chapters on the "Art of the Sixth Century" and the missionary work of Justinian than in his exposition of the Church controversies. For this exposition seems to be too popular and superficial for those to whom it is addressed. The lectures, originally delivered to a university audience, assume a considerable knowledge of the Nestorian and Monophysitic controversies of the fifth century and the rulings of the Council of Chalcedon. The "Henotikon" of Zeno is referred to without any explanation. But readers who can be assumed to possess this knowledge are entitled to look for some fuller and deeper instruction on the intricate debates of the sixth century than the sketch which Mr. Hutton supplies—excellent so far as it goes. Some of the most prominent theologians of the century do not appear in the index. Mr. Hutton was hardly justified in dispensing himself from estimating the Church policies of Zeno and Anastasius, apart from which that of Justinian is not fully intelligible. When we opened the volume, we hoped to find a detailed survey of the Christological controversies of Justinian's age; and we have been seriously disappointed. It strikes us that Mr. Hutton is more successful in recording his impressions of St. Sophia than in discussing the Three Chapters. The following description is admirable. St. Sophia

"is impressive far beyond expectation at the first entrance, and the impression deepens every hour. Two points must strike every beholder. First, its fitness for the Divine liturgy. No building of the size has, perhaps, ever been so well designed for the participation of all the worshippers in the great act of thanksgiving. The galleries and the aisles alike permit the sight of the apse—the bema. The eye would be carried towards the ciborium, and fixed upon the ikonostasis and the ambo, which the sixth century writers describe with such enthusiasm.

Connected with this result, I think, is the perfect symmetry of the whole building.....The second feature is the marvellous richness of decoration. Even now the immemorial pillars, which had stood in the temple of Baalbek before Christ lived on earth, are glorious in their beauty. Porphyry and verde antique, of colossal size, surmounted by elaborately carved capitals, with the monograms, undefaced, of Justinian and Theodora, they stand, to all appearance, as they have stood for thirteen hundred years. And if the dignity of the great columns impresses, the beauty of the varied work on the capitals attracts and interests. There may be traced the growth of Byzantine art, foreign influence, and ancient survival. Emblem and monogram and device enrich the new impost-capital, which, in its four main varieties, is found in the great church."

It is not quite to the point to compare Messrs. Lethaby and Swainson's "S. Sophia" with Salzenberg's "Altchristliche Baudenkmale," as if they were rival books (p. 273). It should rather be said that the English book is now the chief work on the subject, but must be studied in connexion with the indispensable plates of Salzenberg. We do not like to see Mr. Grosvenor's "Constantinople," a pretentious work and not abreast of the most recent research, described as "the latest authority." On p. 9 it is observed that Constantinople had the same constitution as old Rome, and in support of this statement it is mentioned that "we meet in the pages of Procopius with the prefect, the senate and the people, the quaestor." This is a little misleading. The quaestor was connected with the emperor, not with the city; for example, in the reign of Honorius the quaestor resided at Ravenna, not at Rome. An unwary reader might be led to imagine that the quaestor of this period was historically descended from the quaestors of the republic and early empire. Mr. Hutton (p. 61) equates Biclaro with Valclara, without any hint of uncertainty. We doubt the identification. It would have been well if he had made use of the studies of the Abbé Duchesne for his account of the conversion of the Sudan and Ethiopia. We have noticed some trifling misprints: p. 35, n. 2, "des Germanen"; 53, n. 1, "Achimandrite"; 150, "othodoxy"; 274, n. 1, "der byzantinischer Litteratur"; c. vi. *passim*, "Strygovski."

*The Abbé de Lamennais and the Liberal Catholic Movement in France.* By the Hon. W. Gibson. (Longmans & Co.).—Mr. Gibson's intentions are excellent, and he has tried to give a clear account of Lamennais's career; but his book shows signs of inexperience, and he cannot be said to have added anything to our knowledge of its subject. He seems to exaggerate the importance of the intercourse between his hero and Auguste Comte.

*Spanish Protestants in the Sixteenth Century.* Compiled from the German of C. A. Wilkens by Rachel Challice. (Heinemann).—Miss Challice has translated a "Geschichte des spanischen Protestantismus" by Dr. C. A. Wilkens, and, finding the book "too ponderous for general readers," she has published an abridgment of it reduced to half its original size, and produced "in a form more adapted to the general reader." As we have not seen Dr. Wilkens's book we can pronounce no opinion on it; but Miss Challice's volume is of little value. In abridging the book she has often left out facts essential to the comprehension of the narrative; her knowledge of German is obviously imperfect, and she makes so many errors in Spanish that her acquaintance with that language cannot be great. Some of her mistakes, too, seem to show that her knowledge of history is not large. What can be said of the following sentence!—

"To the noble-hearted Duchess Guilia de Gonzaga, widow of Vespasian Colonna, Juan Valdes was also able to afford greater spiritual help with his evangelical opinions than were Sales, St. Cyran, the duchesse de Grammont, the Princess de Guise, or Fenelon."

Strange forms abound in the book: "Jaena" for Jaen, "Oekolampad" for Ecolampadius, and "Melancthon" occur, each of them more



than once; so they can hardly be attributed to the printer.

SCANDINAVIAN LITERATURE.

*Handbook of the History of Finnish Literature.* By B. F. Godenhjelm. Translated from the Finnish, with Notes, by E. D. Butler. (Butler.)—This little book is an exceedingly careful and accurate translation by the accomplished linguist Mr. Dundas Butler of Prof. Godenhjelm's 'Oppikirja Suomalaisen Kirjallisuuden Historiassa,' the standard text-book of the native literature used in the Finnish girls' school at Helsingfors. It is an excellent introductory manual, which might well serve as a stepping-stone to more elaborate works, like Krohn's 'Suomalaisen Kirjallisuuden Historia,' for instance, though, of course, it suffers from want of proportion, that almost inevitable defect of all such handbooks. Thus the description of the rich and varied modern literature is crowded into eight pages, whereas no fewer than thirty-four pages are allotted to the comparatively barren and unimportant period between 1542 and 1835. It was a mistake, too, to rank purely Swedish poets, like Frese, Creutz, Runeberg, and Cygnaeus, among Finnish writers. On the other hand, the analysis of the 'Kalevala' is eminently satisfactory. Mr. Butler has enriched the book with a series of illustrative foot-notes indicative of no mean scholarship. Sometimes, indeed, he is not quite up to date, as when in his penultimate foot-note he mentions the already antiquated 'Biografinen Nimikirja' among his "serviceable aids to students of Finnish literature," without a word of the more recent and much superior 'Finsk Biografisk Handbok,' which promises to supersede it; and one cannot but smile to see the Swedish Chancellor, Count Creutz, described by him as "President of the Swedish Court of Chancery." These, however, are the sole important errors of omission and commission we have been able to discover. But why, oh, why did Mr. Butler, himself a librarian of many years' standing, neglect to equip his volume with a suitable index?

*Seeriges Periodiska Litteratur.* Bibliografi utarbetad af Bernhardt Lundstedt. Vol. II. 1645-1894. (Stockholm, Bonnier.)—Dr. Lundstedt, of the Royal Library of Stockholm, has just published the second and final volume of his work on Swedish periodical literature, and we are glad to receive such a useful and thorough bibliographical guide. It is a valuable addition to our works of reference, though naturally there will not be many in this country who will often consult it. Dr. Lundstedt gives an accurate account and description of each periodical, detailing the various phases through which it has passed, and mentioning any item of interest connected with its publication. Tegner's first attempts and many of his smaller pieces were printed in *Lunds Veckoblad*, and we are reminded that the poet Kellgren not only contributed to, but was also the editor of *Stockholms Posten*. Dr. Lundstedt gives Gustavus II. the credit of being the originator of periodical publications in Sweden. Shortly before the king started for Prussia, in June, 1626, he gave orders that the Secretary of the Department of Public Records should extract any interesting items of news from the letters received from the king's various correspondents, and print them once a week, and out of this practice the Swedish periodical was gradually developed. Dr. Lundstedt has also many interesting notes about the indiscretions of editors and the censorship which the kings and Government exercised on the papers. Censors seem to have been appointed in 1676, and Charles XI. in 1682 was so concerned about the matter of certain articles that had been published that he wrote to Oxenstierna, telling him to take care that nothing was printed without previous examination. The *Sofrosyne*,

a paper for women, was suppressed in 1815, after eighteen months' existence, owing to the insertion of a letter in which mention was made of the wonderful change that had been wrought in a certain prince (the Emperor Alexander) by Madame Krudener. The editor was fined 800 rix dollars. The *Hermes Gothicus*, printed in Strengnäs in 1624, is the oldest known newspaper of Sweden. A very imperfect, though unique copy exists in the royal library at Stockholm. The index, we are sorry to say, leaves much to be desired.

FRENCH HISTORY.

By the "Convocation des États Généraux" M. A. Brette understands, not, as M. Thiers has implied, "leur réunion effective," but the electoral operations connected with that assembly: "Actes relatifs à la convocation, listes des agents du pouvoir royal, listes des élus de la nation, ces trois éléments formeront en quelque sort la base de notre édifice." His ponderous volume entitled *Recueil de Documents relatifs à la Convocation des États Généraux de 1789* (Paris, Imprimerie Nationale) gives only the first two of the above-named elements. The "édifice," when finished, is to form the preface to a work on the *procès verbaux* and the *cahiers* of 1789. The labour here suggested sounds appalling, and involves the elucidation, or at all events the publication, of obsolete statutes and laws referring to defunct institutions and offices which when they existed defied comprehension. Thus M. Brette records the difficulties officials in 1789 encountered when dealing with topographical details; how, for instance, the royal letter of convocation for the *Comté de Comminges* was addressed to "M. le lieutenant général du bailliage de Comminges à Comminges," though in that *comté* there was no royal bailliwick nor lieutenant-general, nor even any town of the name of Comminges. Nevertheless our author declares that "chaque nom de ville, paroisse, ou communauté cité dans les procès verbaux des assemblées bailliagères, ou dans les 'États des paroisses' adressés à Necker par les lieutenants généraux, a été par nous relevé, pointé, contrôlé et fixé sur la carte," and this in spite of the destruction by the Revolution of the old territorial distinctions and of innumerable archives. Even the exact number of the deputies is a matter of doubt; yet M. Brette promises an alphabetical list of those who actually sat in the Constituent Assembly, another of those who, though elected, did not take their seat, and a third of all the deputies arranged according to their bailliwick, town, or district. Loyseau had said: "En France la confusion des justices n'est guère moindre que celle des langues lors de la tour de Babel." A century later Calonne asserted that from the confusion caused in the realm by the "Pays d'États" and the "Pays d'Administrations mixtes," the different modes of taxation, and the system of privileges, "c'est nécessairement un royaume très imparfait, très rempli d'abus, et tel qu'il est impossible de le bien gouverner." These statements M. Brette abundantly illustrates. Hence we think him somewhat prejudiced in blaming the Crown for its failure to perform the impossible task of reconciling so many antagonistic claims. He tells us that if the Convocation has never before been rightly studied, the fault can be traced back "to the incredible ignorance of the Crown, which first led historians and commentators into error." Thus the *règlement* of January 24th, 1789, "the basis of the whole history of the Convocation," was not understood by the royal power that issued it. It was not a "*règlement* at all, but only an instruction." Necker's famous *résumé* of December 27th, 1788, had, as Duquesnoy observes, a false foundation when its second article provided "que ce nombre (de mille députés) sera formé autant qu'il sera possible en raison composée de la population et

des contributions de chaque bailliage," for what proportion could be established between a population of 10,000 paying 100,000 francs, and a population of 30,000 contributing 400,000 francs ('*Journal de Duquesnoy*,' vol. i. p. 159)? But M. Brette shows further that the Crown knew neither the population of the kingdom nor the contributions of each bailliwick. The gross produce of the taxation could not be estimated because so large a portion remained in the hands of the farmer-generals, whilst Necker himself had declared the census of such a large country impossible. A guess at the population of a district was sometimes arrived at by multiplying the births by twenty-six. A calculation thus made by the Intendant gave the *Comté d'Eu* little more than half the actual number of its inhabitants. The necessity of tracing who were the agents of the royal power whose functions brought them into any sort of connexion with the Convocation results in elaborate expositions of the origin, duties, and emoluments of ministers and secretaries of state, governor-generals, *Prévôts généraux* de la maréchaussée, intendants, archbishops, bishops, &c., with lists and often biographical notices of the persons holding those positions in 1789. We are shown a "lieutenant général d'épée" contesting the right of directing the acts of Convocation with a "lieutenant général de robe longue," whilst the Abbé de Bardonnnet claims the right of taking part in the States General on the ground of being the military governor of Souvigny, an anomaly which M. Brette compares with the position of Madame des Essarts, who in 1621 figured as "commandant de la ville de Romorantin." An interesting chapter on military governor-generals of provinces demonstrates the uselessness and expense of an office to which no power was attached, and of which the abolition was constantly demanded by the *cahiers* of 1789. These personages were forbidden to meddle in the affairs of their respective provinces, or even to go thither unless specially authorized. Comte de Peyre was governor of the Bourbonnais and also its grand military seneschal. In the latter capacity he should have presided over the assemblies of the three orders, but as governor he could not even appear there. Amongst the indemnities granted to such governors in 1791 was one to the Duke of Orleans of 350,000 francs.

In the same monotonous form in which M. Victor Pierre in his '18 Fructidor' dealt with the summary treatment by military commissions of returned *émigrés* does he now, in *La Déportation Ecclésiastique sous le Directoire*, give the text of hundreds of *arrêtés de déportation* affecting some two thousand French and Belgian clergy. Both volumes, we suspect, should be considered as merely the *pièces justificatives* to a work he published ten years ago entitled '*La Terreur sous le Directoire*.' "Il n'a pas été lancé un seul mandat d'arrêt après le 19 fructidor contre qui que ce soit" is the assertion of M. Jules Simon's "grand homme de bien," Revellière Lépeaux. M. Victor Pierre, however, proves that Director to have signed no fewer than 231 sentences of transportation after that date. The innumerable charges against priests of "fanaticizing the people" by performing marriages and baptisms, of retracting or qualifying the various oaths required of them, and of refusing absolution to holders of national property are varied on one occasion by the accusation made against some of the clerical members of the University of Louvain of having exorcised a girl reputed to be possessed of the devil.

The firm of Calmann Lévy publish M. Anatole Leroy-Beaulieu's new studies on diplomacy under the title of *Études Russes et Européennes*. They chiefly concern the position of France in these last years, and they are virtually as much directed against the Russian alliance as is possible in the case of one who is a patriotic French-

man, and who has done more than any other Frenchman to make Russia known to France. M. Anatole Leroy-Beaulieu does not advise France to break away from that Russian alliance which, like other far-sighted observers, he had seen to be inevitable since 1870; but he warns his countrymen against exaggeration. The most interesting portion of the work (because the newest, and the matters dealt with change from time to time) is a preface, dated May of this year, in which the present position of the European Concert is discussed. The author shows that the grouping of continental Europe now forms a reconstitution of the Balance of Power, and maintains peace better than did that former understanding, but that it involves the destruction of the hopes of the nationalities and of liberty, and the abandonment by all the Great Powers of all unselfish care and generous treatment of the weaker peoples, and concentration of their energies upon the maintenance of peace among themselves. The nine pages of the preface are thoroughly worthy to be studied and remembered.

The same great publishing firm of Paris also issue *Trois Années de la Question d'Orient, 1856 - 1859, d'après les Papiers inédits de M. Thouvenel*, by M. L. Thouvenel. This publication from M. Thouvenel's papers is less interesting and less important than the previous ones which have been noticed by us. The period has not the importance which the present M. Thouvenel attributes to it in his preface, and even the portions of the book which directly concern this country do not seem of much interest now. The quarrels of Lord Stratford and of Sir Henry Bulwer have ceased to charm.

MM. Armand Colin & Cie publish *Histoire Politique de l'Europe Contemporaine: Évolution des Partis et des Formes Politiques, 1814-1896*, by Ch. Seignobos, which is an accurate account of the present politics (with introductions covering the period since 1815) of England, France, Holland, Switzerland, the Iberian and Italian peninsulas, Germany, Scandinavia, Russia, Turkey, and the Balkan states. The author is perfectly fair, and his book is so sound that it might become a text-book for teaching; but the claim made for it that it is indispensable is hardly well founded. There is nothing new in it, and nothing that cannot be found elsewhere. No doubt it would be difficult to find a single volume in which everything that is to be found in this one could be discovered, but this claim may be made for almost every learned compilation. It is curious to find in a work published in Paris that it is fully admitted that the period of French preponderance in Europe has been replaced by a period of German preponderance. It is interesting to see that the author classes Great Britain, Norway, and Switzerland by themselves as the three European countries which have had a regular political evolution produced by internal development. We are disposed to agree with him in this classification, although the peculiar circumstances of the personal connexion between Norway and first Denmark, and now Sweden, perhaps cause some doubt as to how far the democratic development of Norway has been hastened or retarded by the opinions of the King of Sweden and of Sweden generally.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THERE is published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. in "The English Citizen" series *National Defences*, from the pen of Major-General Maurice. This most able soldier fails in his preface to pay sufficient regard to the position of Capt. Sir J. Colomb and others as the true founders of that school, mainly naval, to which General Maurice, though a soldier, belongs; for it was Sir J. Colomb more than any other man who taught the nation the lesson that it has now learnt. There is some exaggeration, too, in the

present account of what has been done by the colonies towards Imperial defence. The Canadian militia is insufficient and is declining in numbers, and Canada has never supplied arms on a scale to show that she means business in defence. When the author attacks the Conservative Government of the day for meanness to the colonies at the time of the Colonial Conference his views are, we think, unfair on this question. The sacrifices which the colonists were asked to make for defence were small, and the compromise which was arrived at, for example, with regard to Esquimalt, was one in which the British Treasury gave way far more completely than a rigid consideration of justice would have made necessary. General Maurice also seems to think that Singapore has been treated with meanness. But Singapore, which is a colony of great wealth, probably the richest in the world, does not pay for her defence upon anything like the scale upon which India is made to pay, though India is perhaps the poorest civilized country in the world. Neither does he do justice to the House of Commons upon the question of high explosives. It is a mistake on his part to suppose that attention has not been directed to the matter in recent years. The question was raised in 1893, 1894, 1895, and 1896; and in 1896 the Admiralty announced that high-explosive shells were to be carried by the Channel fleet. It is, however, no doubt the case that they are carried to please public opinion, and not for use. General Maurice calls this a technical question, and says that "therefore it did not interest the House of Commons." Surely, however, the Admiralty, rather than the House of Commons, must be trusted upon such a question, and the most that the House of Commons could do was to question the Admiralty as to their readiness to do their best to cope with other powers in this respect. The Admiralty, moreover, repeatedly pleaded the need for secrecy upon this point, which further absolves the House of Commons. General Maurice gives some most interesting details as to the extent to which high explosives are being used by France and Germany upon land, and, coming from him, these allusions are most valuable, as they confirm stories which have hitherto been confined to official circles. He does not, however, show that there is at present the same danger at sea. Undoubtedly French ships are carrying high-explosive shells in small numbers in cold chambers. But it is very doubtful, to say the least of it, whether they are not at present being carried only experimentally. The reporter of the French naval budget, M. de Kerjégu, discussed the matter with some frankness last winter, and he explained that the French Admiralty and the French War Office take different views as to the value of the invention. We believe that the difficulties attending the piercing even of thin armour by high-explosive shells have not been overcome, and that the position of the fuse gives more trouble in the matter, as far as sea work is concerned, than is allowed for by a land-artilleryman such as General Maurice. Our author quotes, with regard to the diminution of the sailors of the merchant navy, calculations of Sir Vesey Hamilton which are the subject of much dispute, and believes that there are 115,000 foreigners serving in the British merchant navy. This is an exaggeration. There is great difficulty in discovering the actual facts. The evidence before Sir Edward Reed's committee and the tables placed before it by the Board of Trade are far from satisfactory. It is admitted that the number of foreigners is large and is increasing. But there is no reason whatever to suppose that it is so large, either actually or proportionately, as General Maurice thinks. It is almost impossible, however, to clear up the matter. Many Norwegians engage as though they were British, and have names not unlike English and Scotch names, which, by a slight alteration, become their names in the British

merchant navy. These anglicized Norwegians, however, are not a dangerous foreign element. The matter deserves attention, but when exaggerated statements are made on the one side they are met by exaggerated statements on the other, and one Conservative member has recently assured the House of Commons that the returns of British seamen fail to show what he considers the best element in our marine population, namely the boatmen, the majority of the fishermen, and the majority of the yachtsmen. This present book is on the whole suggestive, but far less excellent than the same able author's 'War' or article in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.' There is one curious literary note to be made on a comment by General Maurice on Mr. Labouchere. He quotes, as though it were Mr. Labouchere's, the famous speech of the king in 'Gulliver's Travels,' which has always been supposed to be a joke at the expense of royal speeches to Parliament. No doubt General Maurice has literature enough to be aware where the quotation as to two blades of grass came from; but his readers will ascribe the whole invention to Mr. Labouchere.

*The North-Western Provinces of India: their History, Ethnology, and Administration*, by W. Crooke (Methuen & Co.), is a valuable addition to that class of books which may with advantage form part of the official library of every local civil servant. It tells the story of these provinces from the social point of view, and discusses with much sound judgment the principal problems which present themselves for solution. Regarding the country the author says:—

"It is the veritable garden of India, with a soil of unrivalled fertility, for the most part protected from the dangers of famine by a magnificent series of irrigation works: occupied by some of the finest and most industrious of the native races: possessing in its roads and railways an unusually perfect system of internal communications."

This is quite true, and accounts for its popularity with young members of the Civil Service, who can within its limits get service by turn in such favoured localities as Mussoree, Nynsee Tal, Almorah, and the Doon; or in sporting quarters, such as the districts near the foot of the hills; or if less fortunate in climate and scenery, they may still serve in places renowned for sanctity, such as Muttra or Benares, or famous in history, as Agra, Lucknow, and Allahabad. The history of these provinces under Hindu and Musalman rule is traced in an interesting chapter, wherein are found glimpses of the chief actors and events, usefully connected with contemporary persons and occurrences in Europe; whilst in the following chapter the effects of British government are considered. One of these is that the evils and danger of periodical famine have been greatly mitigated; in part by the provision of roads and railways, by which food may be brought from a place where it is plentiful to another where it is scarce, but mainly by the construction of a vast system of canals whence the land may be watered when the rain fails. That these works should precede railways is manifest, or rather should be to a person of ordinary intelligence, for the grain must be grown before it can be carried; nevertheless there has been of late years a strong tendency to overlook this simple fact, and to postpone irrigation works in favour of railways. The services of irrigation officers are deservedly commended:—

"But here Government has been well served by its officers, and there is no more striking instance of the unselfish devotion to duty, often irksome, always tedious and monotonous, than is seen in this branch of the public service. From its ranks has been drawn a select staff which has applied the fruits of experience gained in India to the reconstruction and development of Egyptian irrigation."

But the immunity from famine gained by irrigation is in a measure counterbalanced by disease caused by excessive saturation of the soil, an evil which may be prevented or remedied.

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This is typical of the larger problem with which we are daily being more closely confronted: What is to be the limit of a steadily increasing population? How is it to be regulated? Famine and pestilence have hitherto reduced numbers, and if these are checked another solution must be found, for equilibrium must be maintained. All this is considered, and it is well that it should be, for we cannot add one square yard to the earth's surface. It is pleasant to read that though there is a very large class but one degree removed from destitution, there is evidence of improvement in the condition of the tenant class, who live better than their fathers did. The mistakes in the book are few and unimportant, whilst many of the remarks, such as those on the modes of cultivation, are eminently sensible. There is an excellent map, and the illustrations from photographs are well chosen and well reproduced.

A YOUNG lady's diary written in short detached sentences, and accompanied by conversations which involve the presence of a stenographer, furnishes very slight materials for a novel. *Rie's Diary*, by Anné Coates (Chatto & Windus), is hardly successful as a volume for adults, though it might constitute a readable book for girls. It is wholesome in tone, and towards its conclusion becomes pathetic. Nevertheless, the story is one which might have been better and more easily narrated in the third person. The first person singular seems to have endless attractions for the unpractised pen.

MR. J. F. MEEHAN, of Bath, has compiled a useful list of *The Famous Houses of Bath and their Occupants* (Bath, Meehan).

VICOMTE DE SPOELBERCH DE LOVENJOU has written another book on Balzac, in connexion with whom, as well as with George Sand, he was already known. There is some literary interest in his account of the closeness of the connexion between Balzac and Théophile Gautier; but an attempt to plunge into the not very important secrets of Balzac's life is hardly to be commended, and is not altogether successful. The volume is entitled *Autour de Honoré de Balzac*, and the publishers are Calmann Lévy.

FRATELLI TREVES, of Milan, publish *Pro e contro il Socialismo*, by Saverio Merlino, a work which we are unable to praise, as it has no novelty, and as there exist already in English and French, if not in Italian, enough books which merely set out the varieties of Socialism. Neither can the execution of the volume be commended when we find, for example, that the weightiest opinion, next to that of Mr. Herbert Spencer, which is quoted is that of M. Melchior de Vogüé, who is styled "De Vogüé, a Catholico-Darwinian-philosopher viscount and member of the Academy."

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL have sent us another instalment, containing *Dombey and Son*, of their handsome "Gadshill" edition of Dickens's novels. In his introduction Mr. Lang criticizes 'Dombey' judiciously. It is not one of Dickens's best novels, and the signs of weariness Mr. Lang discovered in 'Martin Chuzzlewit' are certainly to be found in 'Dombey.' In his scanty notes he remarks that in 'Dombey' the coaching days are ending. He might have remarked that in 'Chuzzlewit' Dickens introduced the curious compromise of allowing Americans to travel by railroad, but making Mr. Pecksniff and his countrymen cling to the mail coach. No wonder Dickens was unwilling to abandon the road and its humours: his treatment of the railway in chap. xx. of 'Dombey' cannot be called particularly successful. Mr. Lang has not noted this, nor that a remarkable change in educational fashions has taken place since at Dr. Blimber's school "nothing happened so vulgar as play."

COL. LEAN has published a Jubilee number of the *Royal Naval List* (Witherby).

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. have sent us an edition in one volume of Mr. Marion Crawford's *Taquisara*. The same firm have added to their excellent series of "Illustrated Standard Novels" *Frank Mildmay*, by Capt. Marryat. Mr. Millar's drawings are decidedly clever, and Mr. Hannay's brief introduction is worth perusing.—Mr. John Lane has put his name on the title-page of a reprint of the *Poems of the new American Ambassador*, Col. Hay, and his *Castilian Days*, sketches of Madrid painted with a broad brush (*Athen.* No. 2313).

We have on our table *The Klerksdorp Gold Fields*, by G. A. Denny (Macmillan).—*Heroines of Travel*, by F. Mundell (S.S.U.).—*Darab's Wine-cup, and other Tales*, by B. Kennedy (Ollif).—*Tales of the Old Régime*, by P. Warung (Routledge).—*The Dream of Pilate's Wife*, by Mrs. H. Day (Roxburghe Press).—*Lazarus*, by Lucas Clevee (Hutchinson).—*The Port of Missing Ships*, by J. R. Spears (Macmillan).—*A Farrago of Folly*, by G. Gamble (Fisher Unwin).—*A Book of Humbug*, by C. J. Willdey (Skeffington).—*Sally*, by Mrs. Richmond (Skeffington).—*The Good Ship Matthew, a Poem*, by A. C. Macpherson (Simpkin).—*Fancy's Guerdon*, by Anodos (Mathews).—*Lyrics of Lovely Life*, by P. L. Dunbar (Chapman & Hall).—*Sophonisba, or the Prisoner of Alba, and other Poems*, by E. Derry (Digby & Long).—*The God-Idea of the Ancients*, by E. B. Gamble (Putnam).—*A Study of St. Paul*, by S. Baring-Gould (Isbister).—*The Ambitions of St. Paul*, by W. G. Horder (Alexander & Shephard).—*On the Use of Science to Christians*, by E. M. Caillard (Nisbet).—*The Saviour in the Light of the First Century*, by the Rev. John Parker (Edinburgh, Hitt).—*A Man of Plain Speech*, by M. E. (Headley Brothers).—*Heaven*, by J. H. Cooke (Baptist Tract and Book Society).—*The Gospel the Power of God, and other Sermons*, by C. D. Bell, D.D. (Arnold).—*Pastoral Work in the Colonies and the Mission Field*, by the Rev. J. R. Selwyn, D.D. (S.P.C.K.).—*Bishop Barlowe's Dialogue on the Lutheran Factions*, with an Introduction bearing on the Question of Anglican Orders and Notes by J. R. Lunn, B.D. (Ellis & Keene).—*Shakespeare and the Bible*, edited by C. Ellis (Houlston).—*Précis de Logique Évolutionniste*, by P. Regaud (Paris, Alcan).—and *L'Idée de Patrie*, by L. Legrand (Hachette).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Poetry and the Drama.

Racine's *Athalie*, translated into English Verse by W. P. Thompson, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Vashti, a Tragedy, and other Poems, by Zeto, 12mo. 5/ cl.

History and Biography.

Besant's (Sir W.) *The Queen's Reign and its Commemoration*, folio. 5/ net, cl.

Hannibal, by W. O'Connor Morris, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl. (*Heroes of the Nations*).

Whitman, Walt, the Man, by T. Donaldson, cr. 8vo. 6/ net.

Geography and Travel.

Peters's (J. P.) *Nippur, or Explorations and Adventures on the Euphrates*, Vol. 1, 8vo. 12/6 cl.

Stray Notes of a Wayfarer, by A. C. C., cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Philology.

Lazarillo de Tormes, conforme á la Edición de 1554, edited by H. B. Clarke, 12mo. 5/ net.

Rye's (W.) *Songs, Stories, and Sayings of Norfolk*, 2/ net.

Science.

Barton's (F. T.) *Every-day Ailments and Accidents of Cattle*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 awd.

Bradley's (O. C.) *Outlines of Veterinary Anatomy*, 10/6 cl.

Crawford's (J. H.) *The Wild Flowers of Scotland*, 6/ net.

Garbett's (Capt. H.) *Naval Gunnery, the Fighting Equipment of a Man-of-War*, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.

Holthouse's (E.) *Convergent Strabismus and its Treatment*, 8vo. 6/ cl.

Landau's (Drs. L. and T.) *The History and Technique of the Vaginal Radical Operation*, tr. Eastman and Giles, 7/6

Muir's (M. M. P.) *Course of Practical Chemistry*, Part 1, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.

Pearman (T. H.) and Moor's (C. G.) *Analysis of Food and Drugs: Part 1, Milk and Milk Products*, 8vo. 5/ net.

Schaeffer's (Dr. O.) *Atlas and Essentials of Gynecology*, 12mo. 15/ cl.; *Anatomical Atlas of Obstetric Diagnosis and Treatment*, cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.

Solly's (S. E.) *Handbook of Medical Climatology*, 8vo. 16/ cl.

General Literature.

Druery's (C. T.) *The New Gulliver, or Travels in Athonia*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Gorri's (Mrs. H. E.) *Possessed of Devils*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Hell, by Oudeis, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.

Lepelletier's (E.) *Madame Sans-Gêne*, cheap ed. cr. 8vo. 2/ bds.

Levet-Yeats's (S.) *The Chevalier d'Aurice*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Meyer's *Anglo-International Code*, 4to. 42/ cl.

Riddell's (Mrs.) *A Rich Man's Daughter*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Russell's (W. C.) *The Phantom Death*, cr. 8vo. 2/ bds.

Seymour's (G.) *A Homburg Story*, 32mo. 2/ cl.

Stanley's (H. M.) *Essays on Literary Art*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Taylor's (J.) *The Public Man, his Duties and Powers*, 8vo. 3/6 net.

Teaching and Organization, edited by P. A. Barnett, 6/6 cl.

Twain's (Mark) *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, cheaper edition, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Walker's (A.) *Manual of Needlework and Cutting Out*, 5/ cl.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Hoedemaker (P. J.) *Der mosaische Ursprung der Gesetze in den Büchern Exodus, Leviticus u. Numeri*, 6m.

Philosophy.

Durkheim (É.) *Le Suicide, Étude Sociologique*, 7fr. 50.

Roberty (E. de) *Le Psychisme Social*, 2fr. 50.

Political Economy.

Andler (Ch.) *Les Origines du Socialisme d'État en Allemagne*, 7fr.

Métin (A.) *Le Socialisme en Angleterre*, 3fr. 50.

History and Biography.

Bonnell (E.) *Beiträge zur Alterthumskunde Russlands*, Part 2, 12m. 50.

Brisson (A.) *Portraits Intimes*, Series 3, 3fr. 50.

Jacob (K.) *Die Erwerbung des Elsass durch Frankreich im westfälischen Frieden*, 5m. 50.

Patry (Lieut.-Col.) *La Guerre telle qu'elle est, 1870-1871*, 3fr. 50.

Geography and Travel.

Hugo (V.) *Œuvres Posthumes: En Voyage, France et Belgique*, 2fr.

Javelle (E.) *Souvenirs d'un Alpiniste*, 3fr. 50.

Pradier-Fodéré (C.) *Lima et ses Environs*, 4fr.

Régamey (F.) *D'Aix en Aix*, 3fr. 50.

General Literature.

Bertheroy (J.) *Les Trois Filles de Pieter Waldorp*, 3fr. 50.

Bols (A. du) *Leuconoé*, 3fr. 50.

Dach (Comtesse) *Mémoires des Autres*, Vol. 5, 3fr. 50.

Daudet (B.) *Pauline Fossin*, 3fr. 50.

Deschamps (G.) *La Vie et les Livres*, Series 4, 3fr. 50.

Le Goffic (C.) *Sur la Côte, Gens de Mer*, 3fr. 50.

Levasseur (B.) *L'Enseignement Primaire dans les Pays Civilisés*, 15fr.

Marin (A.) *La Belle d'Aouit*, 3fr. 50.

Mary (J.) *Foudroyé*, 3fr. 50.

Octon (V. d') *Journal d'un Marin*, 3fr. 50.

Spoil (E. A.) *Le Pré aux Clercs*, 3fr. 50.

SPEAKER LENTHALL.

7, South Park, Sevenoaks, July 12, 1897.

MR. FIRTH has pointed out a mistake in my 'What Gunpowder Plot Was,' pp. 11, 12, which I shall be glad to correct before the critics discover it. It was not Speaker Lenthall, but his son, who died in 1681, and to whom Wood's opprobrious remark relates. Consequently the date of the paper containing the story of the confession by the second Earl of Salisbury that the plot was his father's contrivance is not earlier than 1662—the true date of Speaker Lenthall's death—instead of being not earlier than 1681. As, however, the corrected date is fifty-seven years after that of the plot, the argument I founded on the length of time which elapsed between the event and the evidence alleged is not much impaired.

SAMUEL R. GARDINER.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN 1897.

DURING the school year now drawing to its close the minds of men have been fixed more on national than on educational topics. Less than the usual interest, we think, was felt in the Head Masters' Conference, held at Rugby, under the presidency of Dr. James, in December last. We entertain some doubt if the rising generation of head masters is acting wisely in desiring annual instead of biennial meetings. We feel the force of Dr. Gray's arguments; we admit that to discuss for a day and a half once in two years "questions complex and numerous" tends to haste and superficial treatment, and gives to the debate an air of unreality; and, if the Conference could legislate, annual meetings might be an uncomfortable necessity. But if legislation is to be the aim, the head masters must face one or two larger problems, and discard some cherished limitations. They will have to organize the profession, they will have to lead and not to dictate; the hierarchical idea of their position will suffer some changes. If they are prepared for all this, the spectacle will be interesting; but the tendency of head masters is to cultivate a kind of equilibrium. We doubt

neither their ability nor their good will, but a desire to organize the ranks of their subordinates does not come naturally to them.

The record of changes during the year contains one remarkable fact. For the third time in succession one who had been a master at Rugby has become Archbishop of Canterbury. Three times, after an interval of other work, the organizing and guiding faculty, which seems to find its natural abode in the home of Arnold, has raised its possessor to the Primacy. It may not be amiss for those who wish the public schools to hark back to a reactionary theology to reflect how much it means that an Essayist and Reviewer has become Primate. Of the late Archbishop Benson it is perhaps superfluous to say that by abundant testimony at the time of his death he was shown to have won the affection of his pupils and colleagues as a head master no less thoroughly than in after years that of the clergy.

The sound and effective work done for his college and university by the late Warden of Keble should not be allowed to obscure his record as Warden of Radley. We regret to learn that Mr. St. John Gray, head master of Malvern, has been forced by ill health to resign his post in the very hour of the success and notable expansion of the school. By the resignation of Mr. Dunn, a vacancy has occurred in the head-mastership of Bath College. Mr. Dunn has been in some respects a unique figure among head masters. The foible of head masters is, as a rule, conventionality; Mr. Dunn supplied an antidote, especially at the meetings of the Conference, by a bold adherence to ideas often paradoxical, but seldom without a touch of genius and insight. He will be missed, not only in virtue of this quality, but as one of the somewhat scanty band of lay head masters who were prepared to speak with their friendly enemies in the gate. The desire, for instance, widely felt by head masters, that the number of subjects taught at preparatory schools should be severely limited, found no sympathy from Mr. Dunn. He held that the maxim of preparatory schools should be *non multum sed multa*; a slight, diffuse, varied acquaintance with things in general seemed to him the best preparation of the youthful soil. We incline on the whole to believe that his antagonists were in the right. But there is truth in Mr. Dunn's contention that too much methodizing and concentration discourages the young mind. It is, after all, more important, at any part of our career, that we should like acquiring knowledge than that we should have acquired it and learnt to dislike it or to view it with apathy.

A tragical occurrence at one of our public schools has revived in a most acute form an eternal topic—the bullying and teasing among boys at school, and the best method of preventing it. On the incident itself, and the various legal and administrative questions that arose in connexion with it, we shall not touch here. The natural journalistic instinct for dragging out details, exposing names, and trouncing an individual head master; the natural public-school instinct for saying that such things may happen there, but never happen here: these are inevitable, but they give smoke rather than light. The difficulty is not local, but universal; there is not a school in England where the circumstances which have in this case caused an almost unique tragedy might not occur without notice or visible result. There is no doubt whatever that there has been, in the last quarter of a century, a very great diminution at schools in the rougher and more brutal forms of physical bullying, such, e.g., as those narrated in 'Tom Brown.' That they are extinct no wary master will be ready to affirm: schoolboys themselves, or those who have just left school, if you can get behind their screen of optimism, will undeceive you. Still, mere brutality has diminished: Flashman, unless he were really distinguished in athletics, would

now be thought bad form, a kind of public eye-sore. And in our satisfaction that this is so we pass into a new danger. A little reflection will show us that sensitive boys and boys of unpopular tastes or unfashionable opinions may well be more disheartened by perpetual teasing than by casual violence. There is, in the nature of the case, an end to the latter, but to the former there seems to be none; it is, too, a pain of the mind, which much outlasts any pain of the body. Now the difficulty is that, while physical bullying is more or less out of fashion, the art of teasing flourishes and abounds, and perhaps, dazzled by their satisfaction at the disappearance of the one, masters are apt to ignore the survival and possible increase of the other. It is, of course, the temptation and foible of schoolmasters to assume that what cannot be prevented without difficulty and unpopularity represents an indelible tendency of boys and cannot be prevented at all. But it is remarkable how tenaciously boys, who seem to be born theologians, stick to the right and duty of persecuting opinions. Molestation, incivility, delight in the misery of another, represent in any sphere the extreme forms of human selfishness, and we are inclined to think that a good deal of the metaphysics imbibed at school may be of less pressing importance than this commonplace and comprehensible doctrine. What is wanted, of course, is that boys should feel the same reprobation, as a point of honour, for bullying or teasing the weak as they feel, e.g., for stealing. It is as absurd to say that this is impossible as it would be to affirm that it is easy. But that portion of the public that demands the suppression of all teasing by increased supervision is misleading itself. Life at an ordinary public school is gregarious, in our opinion, to an unwholesome extent; it is lived by the standard of a rather dull majority, much preoccupied with things of the body and hampered by very obtuse traditions. But its faults are the very last to be amenable to espionage: you might as well try to cure a drought with a telescope. Only let it never be forgotten that every boy, of any age, who has acquired the mere rudiments of a taste in which to spend fragments of leisure, is already to some extent redeemed from this particular vice. In our view, sheer boredom often made the bully, and often now makes the teasing and oppressive member of the dull majority. We sometimes wonder if the powerful party that dislikes intellectual pressure for boys, on the ground that it makes them prigs, has ever watched or reflected on the worse mischiefs to which unoccupied brains are prompted.

It is interesting to observe the growing sense of the importance of the volunteer question at public schools. Mr. Lyttelton's speech at the Conference, and the letters of Lord Wolsley and Sir Evelyn Wood, put the matter cogently and well, and certainly the spectacle of the public schools volunteer review at Windsor would lead one to suppose that the schools are feeling the impulse strongly. The apprehensions of Mr. Dunn that they will become mere drill-grounds seem to us fanciful to the verge of absurdity. Apart from all other considerations, it is eminently advantageous to widen the narrow local patriotism of a public school on something like a national basis.

A veteran teacher and organizer, the head master of Marlborough, has taken up his pen on a topic of perennial interest, the religious teaching in secondary schools. He is conscious—how could he be otherwise?—of certain divergencies and defects in our teaching of the Bible, and particularly of the Old Testament, and he aims at a kind of *evirencon*, conceding points which would have seemed vital, sixty years ago, to any head master but Arnold, and, where he insists on dogmatic and authoritative doctrine, insisting in so equitable and friendly a manner that even those who differ from him will read his book with pleasure and profit. His criticism

(pp. 82-4) of the usual papers on the New Testament set in schools is, we have no doubt, sound. We are not quite sure that he fully discerns the reason of their sameness and frequent futility. By tradition rather than rule, an invisible fence divides these subjects from those with which other school examinations are concerned. A certain type of question is expected, and appears; the real difficulties are tabooed. We do not say that this is wrong, but merely that it is not the way to stimulate thought on theological topics. Even so candid and liberal-minded a man as Mr. Bell seems to have got fixed in the idea that the one thing to be discouraged is scepticism or negation. If there were really an imminent danger that secondary schools would be administered by a set of dissipated scoffers, it would be natural to take this view. But we see no sufficient consciousness in Mr. Bell's book of the opposite danger, that of superstitious credulity, to which boys are really much more prone, coming as they do—the warning, we think, was Mr. Lyttelton's—to school fresh from the nursery meal of Calvinism, very much disposed to believe on authority, and very reluctant to translate belief into self-control. We have never been able to understand why head masters show such a disparity between their treatment of these rival tendencies. It seems to be thought that credulity drops away of itself in time, while the critical spirit clings. That may often happen, but the converse is commoner. The moderate and thoughtful freedom with which Mr. Bell himself treats Biblical questions has been won, bit by bit, from the dogmatists by the critical spirit; does he see any reason for concluding that its work is done? or because we might conceivably have too much of it, need we be thankful when we have too little?

Apart from this, we have nothing but praise for Mr. Bell's treatment of his undeniably thorny subject. Without a touch of the pompous or the dictatorial, he explains not only the faith, but the method that is in him, whereby a liberal Anglicanism can permeate the religious teaching of a public school. Whether his limits are altogether wide enough, time will show; we are convinced that nothing narrower will avail.

#### SALE OF THE ASHBURNHAM LIBRARY.

MESSRS. SOTHERY concluded the sale of the first portion of this celebrated library on the 3rd inst. The prices realized for the rarest books were remarkable, and were sustained to the end, the total for the eight days' sale of 1,633 lots amounting to 30,151l. 10s. There will be two more portions of six days' sale each next season. The following are the chief prices realized in the last two days: Sam. Daniel's Works, first complete edition, 1601, 28l. Dante, the most ancient edition with a date, Fulginei, Numeister, 1472, 146l.; the edition of Vind. de Spira, with Benvenuto's Commentary, 1477, 30l.; the edition with Nidobeato's Commentary, Milan, 1478, 46l.; the first edition with Landino's Commentary, with two of the Botticelli plates, Florence, 1481, 32l.; Bonino's edition, Brescia, 1487, 26l.; the edition of Venice by P. Cremonese, 1491, with woodcuts, 39l.; that of B. Benali at Venice, 1491, 28l.; the Sessa edition, 1564, in fine contemporary Italian binding, 26l. De Bry, Grands et Petits Voyages, Parts I.-XI. and Parts I.-IX. only, 55l.; Emblemata Secularia, Francof., 1596, 28l. 10s. T. Decker's The Wonderful Year 1603, 13l.; Villanias discovered by Lanthorne and Candlelight, 1620, 24l. Defoe's Moll Flanders, first edition, 1721, 22l. 10s. Gilles Dewes's Introduction for to lerne to rede, pronounce, and speake Frenche Trewly, J. Reynes, n.d., 30l. 10s. Dialogus Creaturarum Moralizatus, Gouda, G. Leeuw, 1480, 25l. 10s. Dictes or Sayings of the Philosophers, Caxton's first edition, 1477, perfect,

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1,320. E. Digby, De Arte Natandi, 1587, 15l. Dio Cassius, in Italian Grolieresque binding, Venice, 1533, 41l. Diodorus Siculus in French, François de Bourbon's copy, on vellum, G. Tory, 1535, 151l. Passio Jesu Christi, Hans Schaufelein's plates, Frankfurt, 1542, 18l. Doctrinal of Sappylene, printed by Caxton, 1489, two leaves in facsimile, 660l. Dodoens's Herbal by Lyte, 1578, 17l. Morall Philosophie of Doni, Englished by Sir T. North, 1641, 26l. Gawin Douglas's Palis of Honoure, Copland, 1553, 81l. Du Pont, Controverses des Sexes Masculin et Féminin, 1541; Triumphe de Petrarque, Paris, 1538; and another, in 1 vol., 50l. 10s. Durandus, Rationale Divinorum Officiorum, on vellum, third book printed with a date, Fust & Schoeffer, 1459, 320l. Albert Dürer's Engravings, 62 various subjects, 1497-1519, original impressions, margins cut off, 350l.; another collection, 61l. Du Saix, Lesperon de Discipline, on vellum, Geneva, 1532, 190l. Erasmus, Exposition of the Crede, first edition, R. Redman, 1533, 24l. 10s.; Enchiridion Militis Christiani, Wynkyn de Worde, 1534, 31l.; Proverbes, Englished by R. Taverner, R. Bankes, 1539, 15l. 15s. Esquemeling's Bucaniers of America, 4 parts, large paper, 1684, 17l. 10s. Fabian's Chronicle, first edition, imperfect, Pynson, 1516, 18l. 15s. Fanti, Triompho di Fortuna, woodcuts, Venice, 1527, 30l. Fior di Virtu Hystoriato, Firenze, 1519, 34l. Fletcher, The Purple Island, first edition, large paper, 1633, 20l. 10s. Flores Musice Omnis Cantus Gregoriani, Argent., Prysz, 1488, 22l. 5s. Florio's First and Second Fruits, 1578-91, 20l. 5s. Jacques du Fouilloux, La Venerie, Poitiers, 1561, 16l. 10s. Foulles, a satirical tract of four leaves on the immense Elizabethan ruffs, 1586, 19l. 10s. First edition of Foxe's Martyrs, complete copy, 1562-3, 150l. Froissart in French, first three volumes on vellum of the first edition, Verard, s.d., 190l.; first edition of Lord Berners's translation, imperfect, Pynson, 1523-5, 30l.

ABRAHAM COWLEY.

Dublin.

I ASK to be permitted through the *Athenæum* to call the attention of students of our poetic literature to a hitherto (apparently) undetected forgery (*meo judicio*) of so-called "Familiar Letters" of Abraham Cowley. These appeared in two considerable anonymous papers in *Fraser's Magazine* of 1836, viz., vol. xiii. pp. 395-409, vol. xiv. pp. 234-241. They are thus headed: "The Familiar Letters of Cowley, with Notices of his Life and Sketches of some of his Friends. *Now first printed.*" After a good deal of beating about the bush, the recovered letters are thus heralded:—

"The biography of Cowley as it stands in Johnson is peculiarly barren of incidents....For this deficiency of interest Johnson is not to be blamed. The folly of Sprat, in keeping back all those letters in which the poet poured out his heart to his friends, effectually lopped off one of the most beautiful branches of biography. 'What literary man,' says Coleridge, 'has not regretted the prudery of Sprat in refusing to let Cowley appear in his slippers and dressing-gown?' The question has naturally been asked, What has become of these letters? Did the Dean destroy the correspondence he thought it right to suppress? Six months ago this inquiry would have been unanswered. We are now, by a most fortunate circumstance, enabled to state, that a large portion of these letters is preserved, and has been placed in our hands for arrangement and publication by a descendant of Dr. Sprat. Of their authenticity, proofs can be afforded, which will satisfy even the incredulity of Mr. Disraeli, by whom, we are certain, the discovery will be hailed with great delight, in his forthcoming History of Literature. Our first proposition was to print the correspondence with a few explanatory notes; but a little reflection suggested that a series of letters, throwing so much light on the personal history and feelings of the poet, would be perused with greater interest in connexion with a running notice of his life, and sketches of some of his friends and contemporaries. No labour has been spared to fill up what we have always viewed as a blank in our

poetical biography. The letters are printed from the original MSS.; but it has been deemed advisable to accommodate the orthography to our present system. In a few places, perhaps, the diction may appear more florid and ornate than Cowley's 'Prose Remains' would lead us to expect; but even from those essays we can easily perceive that his style abounded in imagery, and that his letters were all *prose by a poet.*"—P. 397.

With reference to these most audacious statements, I note preliminarily three things: 1. That whereas "a descendant of Dr. Sprat" is given as the possessor of the letters, no one, save the writer of these papers, appears ever to have known or heard of such a descendant. 2. That whereas it is alleged that "a large portion of these letters" was "still preserved," only three were actually published. 3. That the departure from the original orthography on the first printing of these letters was alike unpardonable and suspicious.

But now turning to the letters themselves, I dare not expect space in the *Athenæum* for reproduction of them. I am appealing to fellow lovers of our elder singers, who will not grudge the needed pains to get at and study the "human document" by critically reading these several letters in their places; and perhaps I may be excused suggesting a like study of the admittedly genuine letters of Cowley to be found in vol. ii. of his 'Works in Verse and Prose' in the "Chertsey Worthies' Library," pp. 343-53, and "Memorial-Introduction" in vol. i. Here and now I must content myself with affirming that the first of the letters of these two papers, "To his Mother, after her sickness, with Consolations for Mourners," is so manifestly modelled on George Herbert's "To his Mother on her Sickness" (May 29th, 1622, when Cowley was in his fifth year) as to bewray fraud—none the less that it is prefaced with an allusion to Herbert's letter. That letter can be readily consulted in Walton's life of Herbert, and, of course, in our collective edition of his works, prose, vol. iii. pp. 491-4. The next letter is "to Mr. William Hervey, with an account of a visit to Ben Jonson, a sketch of Cartwright, and a notice of the 'Sad Shepherd.'" This is a kind of mosaic, fetched from Drummond of Hawthornden's notes of conversations with Ben Jonson, and familiar data about Daniel, Cartwright, &c. Had such an account of such a "visit" been authentic, it must have been pronounced priceless, and second only to what a similar glimpse of Shakspeare would have been. But the 'Sad Shepherd' bit is too obviously manufactured. Appended to this letter is a kind of essay, which is thus described:—

"Attached by a small seal to this letter is the following fragment, which, although evidently composed at a later period of life, may not und advantageously be given here. It is written in a different hand, and wants both signature and superscription. A doubt may therefore arise, how far we are justified in attributing it to Cowley. Our own feelings on a first perusal inclined to the contrary decision; but the reader will decide. 'To a Young Friend, with Hints for a Course of Study, and Directions for Reading.'"—P. 406-8.

This tacked-on paper is so plainly modern throughout as to make it impossible to have come from Cowley. These are all in the first article. In the second a letter addressed "To my beloved friend C. E." (May 8th, 1637) is again so modern, and so much a mere *rechauffé* of recognized works of the poet, as to write "spurious" across every line of it. The P.S. is sufficiently foolhardy: "Tell Carew that I drank to his muse yesternight in a cup of Canary. If you see Suckling, my love to Aglaure"—the play of the name not having been printed until long after 1637, and the annotator's suggested explanation not at all satisfactory.

This third letter (as before explained) ends the drafts on the "large portion of the letters still preserved"; and yet the second paper thus concludes: "The next letters of Cowley contain some interesting notices of his reappearance in London" (p. 241). These words surely gave

reason, along with the earlier statement (*ut supra*), to expect a continuation of the letters. But not another syllable followed; nor was any explanation vouchsafed of the abrupt stoppage. Had the forgery been "found out"? In such case silence *certainly* was not golden.

Can any one inform us who was editor of *Fraser's Magazine* in 1836? and has any avowal been made anywhere of the authorship of these two papers? Further, is it known whether Mr. J. Payne Collier and Mr. Peter Cunningham were contributors to *Fraser* in 1836?

I may be allowed to add that when I made my collection of Cowley's entire works in the "Chertsey Worthies' Library" (2 vols. 4to. 1881), I was unaware of these two arraigned papers, else I should most certainly have gone into the matter. It is only recently that my attention was called to them by a young American literary man and lover of Cowley in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, who is engaged on a critical work on Cowley's 'Life and Writings.' The same perhaps pardonable ignorance of these papers and these letters belongs to Mr. Gosse in his study of Cowley (*Cornhill*, December, 1876), to Prof. Lumby (Introductory Notice to Cowley's 'Essays,' Cambridge University Press, 1887), to the editor of Miss M. Russell Mitford's 'Recollections of a Literary Life' (2 vols. 1887), and to recent editors and critics of Ben Jonson.

I don't know that I can better round off this little communication than by quoting from Miss Mitford's brilliant essay on Cowley, albeit I indulge still the pleasures of hope that it will be found Sprat did not destroy the correspondence: "I cannot conclude without a word of detestation towards Sprat, who, Goth and Vandal that he was, destroyed Cowley's familiar letters" (i. 65). ALEXANDER B. GROSART.

AN ALLEGED 1604 EDITION OF 'DON QUIXOTE.'

IN his new and, in some respects, valuable volume entitled 'Documentos Cervantinos hasta ahora inéditos,' Señor D. Cristóbal Pérez Pastor raises a point of uncommon interest for all readers of Cervantes. If Señor Pérez Pastor be right, there exists a 1604 edition of 'Don Quixote,' and the earlier of the two Madrid editions dated 1605 takes its place as the earliest reprint of the *principes*. The idea is new and rather startling, and, as myths about Cervantes are easily believed by enthusiasts, it may be as well to examine the reasons that Señor Pérez Pastor gives for the faith that is in him.

Put shortly, these are the facts as set out by the discoverer. There existed at Madrid in 1604 a certain 'Hermandad de San Juan Evangelista á la Porta-Latina y de los Impresores de Madrid,' and it was the rule that all Madrid printers should send to the Hermandad two copies of each work printed by them, the same copies to be sold for the benefit of the confraternity. Señor Pérez Pastor (Documento 38, p. 138) prints an extract from the day-book of the Hermandad with this heading:—

"Francisco de Robles, fundador de letras de imprenta, Mayordomo de dicha Hermandad, debe en 26 de Mayo de 1604 por cuenta de capillas los libros siguientes."

And at the end of the list there appears the entry: "2 Don Quixotes, á 83 pliegos." On p. 286 Señor Pérez Pastor contends that this entry reveals to us "an earlier edition than any yet known, if the date be right and the copy [of the book] was complete." He argues against the idea that an incomplete copy was handed in, on the ground that the secretary was careful to note the reception of incomplete copies; and, as no note was made in the case of 'Don Quixote,' he infers that the Hermandad copies were perfect. That contention is so intrinsically reasonable that there need be no hesitation in admitting it. Señor Pérez Pastor further pleads (p. 287) that there can be no mistake in the date, since the

book was entered up from day to day, and the accuracy of each date is backed up and strengthened by those before and after it. Other smaller pieces of evidence are offered as confirming the writer's view that beyond all doubt the *Hermadad* had received two copies of 'Don Quixote' at some date previous to May 26th, 1604; but his case really rests on the presence of the entry quoted.

The first point that suggests itself is Señor Pérez Pastor's assertion that the day-book was regularly entered up day by day. How can he or any one tell what were the business habits of an obscure man of affairs in Madrid nearly three centuries ago? The truth of the matter is that he refers to 1604 what actually belongs to 1605. And the simplest way of proving this is to follow up the writer's declaration that "each and all of the books received up to May 26th [1604] were printed in the years 1603 or 1604, as can be shown by examining the respective editions."

Examine the respective editions is easily said; it is not quite easy to do in the case of such works as the following:—

- 2 Fieles Desengaños, cada uno 80 pliegos.
- 2 Contemptus mundi, á 20 pliegos.
- 2 A B C virginales, á 80 pliegos.
- 2 Ágnus típicus, á 22½ pliegos.
- 2 Lámparas encendidas, á 47 pliegos.

These are taken at random from Señor Pérez Pastor's list of twenty-four volumes; and they doubtless edified their readers in their day. But these books of devotion get thumbed out of existence, or, at all events, are not easily found in most libraries. It fortunately happens that, besides 'Don Quixote,' there are in the printed list three other works which rank as literature. These are:—

- 2 Obras del P. Rivadeneira, á 362 pliegos.
- 2 Romanceros generales, á 125 pliegos.
- 2 Arcadias de Lope, á 44 pliegos.

If it can be shown that Señor Pérez Pastor is mistaken as regards any of these works—all received by the *Hermadad*, as he will have it, before May 26th, 1604—it follows that his contention concerning 'Don Quixote' is gravely discredited.

Take the case of Rivadeneira. No doubt Salvá ('Catálogo,' vol. ii. p. 655, No. 3,501) mentions an edition, the second volume of which, according to the title-page, appeared in 1604. Assuming for the moment that the date be right, there is no proof that it was issued as early as May. There is good reason for thinking quite the reverse. To start with, the first volume is dated 1605. Señor Pérez Pastor cannot maintain that he referred to the second volume only. In that case we should be dealing with an incomplete copy of which the secretary made no note; and, next, if one volume be omitted, it becomes impossible to make the *pliegos* amount to 362. Thirdly, this very second volume, though it has 1604 on its title-page, is dated 1605 at the end. Lastly, the privilege was given in Valladolid on July 16th, 1604. Obviously, the 'Obras' cannot have reached the *Hermadad* in the previous May. Señor Pérez Pastor's only chance of escape from the difficulty would be the appearance of a 1603 edition of Rivadeneira. No such thing is known either at the Biblioteca Nacional or the Biblioteca de San Isidro, and, great as Rivadeneira's popularity deservedly was, it is vastly improbable that editions of his works, extending to over 1,400 pages, were printed every year or two.

Take the case of the 'Romancero General.' It is not possible that the copies in the list can be of the Medina del Campo edition of 1602. If they were, the fact would overthrow the assertion that "each and all of the books received up to May 26th [1604] were printed in the years 1603 or 1604." But that by the way. The Medina del Campo edition (1602) consists of some 90 *pliegos*; the copies received by the *Hermadad* contained 125. Nobody pretends that

there are two editions of the 'Romancero General' dated 1604. The enlarged reprint of that year has an *errata* list signed by Francisco Murcia de la Llana at Alcalá de Henares on August 25th, 1604; the *task* is dated September 11th, and the address to the reader was written by Francisco Lopez on September 30th. Plainly the 125 *pliegos* of the book cannot have reached the *Hermadad* four months before they left the printers' hands.

Lope's bibliography is so intricate that it would be rash to stake one's fate on it. But in any event Señor Pérez Pastor is mistaken. He must refer to Pedro Madrigal's edition of the 'Arcadia' dated 1603. If so, what becomes of his statement—capital as regards his case for a 1604 'Don Quixote'—that the ledger was daily entered up, and that the works received were registered in the order of their reception ("se registraban sus partidas por el orden de su entrada")? On his own showing the 1603 'Arcadia' was received after the 1605 Rivadeneira. Is there the least reason for supposing that Madrigal took a year in sending his two copies of the 'Arcadia' from one Madrid street to another? If not, it follows that the volumes were not registered "por el orden de su entrada." What seems likeliest is that, as with Rivadeneira and the 'Romancero General,' there is an error, and that the edition of the 'Arcadia' received by the *Hermadad* was Cuesta's reprint of 1605, which has exactly the same number of *pliegos* as Madrigal's. Señor Pérez Pastor is just a year out of his reckoning.

Did space allow it were tempting to follow him in detail. Thus he lays stress upon the fact that the edition of 'Don Quixote' in his list (of 1604, as he avers) has the same number of *pliegos* as the two Madrid editions of 1605. It does not occur to him that there may be some mistake in his date, and that the *Hermadad* copies may be identical with one of the 1605 editions. On the contrary, he infers "que no se hicieran modificaciones en el texto." Surely an unwarranted inference! The two Madrid editions of 1605 have each precisely the same number of *pliegos*; yet Señor Pérez Pastor must know, like all the rest of the world, that the textual differences between the two are important. To argue, as he does, that because two editions of a book contain the same number of sheets, their contents must be identical, gives a curious glimpse of his ideas on bibliography. Nor is he happier when he puts on the prophet's robe. He foretells that when (if ever) the 1604 'Don Quixote' comes to light, the *errata* list will be found with Juan Vázquez del Mármol's name appended, for the reason that Vázquez del Mármol was official "corrector general" as late as May 21st, 1604. As a matter of fact, the *fe de erratas* of Madrigal's 'Arcadia' (1603) is signed by the same Francisco Murcia de la Llana who put his name to both the Madrid 'Quixotes' of 1605.

One last point. If Cervantes's book were in print as early as May, 1604, he must have had leave to print it. It is singular enough that no later edition ever reprints this privilege. Still more curious is the fact that Cervantes, being already authorized to print in May or earlier, should go to the trouble and expense of taking out a fresh licence on September 20th. It would be absurd to pledge oneself in advance to any such sweeping negative as that there never was, and never could have been, any 1604 edition of 'Don Quixote'; but it is perfectly justifiable to say that it will need a great deal of evidence to prove its existence, and that the evidence will have to be of a very different character from any brought forward by Señor Pérez Pastor. Whatever else he may have proved, he has successfully shown himself to be a dangerous guide, a poor judge of testimony; and, further, he has made plain the exceeding weakness of the case against the earlier Madrid edition of 1605.

JAMES FITZMAURICE-KELLY.

#### THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE.

IN 1877 there was held in London the first International Conference of Librarians, a highly successful gathering, at which was founded the Library Association of the United Kingdom, a body which has since done so much for the library cause. It was thought to be a fitting manner in which to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Association by arranging for a second International Conference, and accordingly invitations were issued to the great libraries of the world to send representatives. The Corporation of the City of London kindly found a meeting-place in their Council Chamber at Guildhall. Over six hundred members joined the Conference, including the chief officials of nearly every large library in the country, as well as distinguished scholars from Germany, Hungary, Italy, France, Belgium, Sweden, and Japan. Many of the British colonies sent delegates, and there were about eighty visitors from the United States.

Sir John Lubbock accepted the position of President, and on Tuesday last, after a welcome from the Lord Mayor, he opened the proceedings. In his address he dwelt upon the great work done in spreading the free library movement since 1850. The Public Libraries Acts had now been adopted by about three hundred and fifty places. The progress had been slow at first. Between 1857 and 1866 there were only fifteen free public libraries. The Acts were adopted in 45 places between 1867 and 1876, in 62 places between 1877 and 1886, and by no fewer than 190 from 1887 to 1896. For a long time London was in possession of only one rate-supported library. From 1876 to 1886 there were but two such libraries, while between 1887 and 1896 the number grew to 32. These libraries now contained over 5,000,000 volumes, the annual issues amounted to 27,000,000, and the attendances to 60,000,000. The British colonies were now well equipped with public libraries. Australia possessed 844, New Zealand 298, and South Africa about 100. There were about a million and a half of volumes in the public libraries of Canada. Some of those who doubted the advantage of public libraries based their argument on the assertion that a large number of the books read were novels. It must be remembered, however, that a book of poems, and more particularly a work of science, would take much longer to read than a novel. Moreover, many novels were not only amusing, but also instructive. The choice of books was becoming more and more difficult, and the National Home Reading Union had done much good in this direction. Many authors buried their own creations by misleading titles. An American writer had said that "perhaps no nation had been more careful than England in the preservation of her archives." The United States Government now issued excellent monthly catalogues of their Government publications. India also had for some time been careful to make her publications available. The Royal Colonial Institute had lately forwarded to every colonial Government an invitation to publish registers containing the titles of all locally published books. The great 'Catalogue of Scientific Papers' of the Royal Society should not be forgotten. The Society was now considering a catalogue which aimed at further completeness and was intended to contain the titles of scientific publications, whether appearing in periodicals or independently. The titles would be arranged not only under names of authors, but also according to the subject-matter. It was hoped that national co-operation might be called upon to assist in the compilation of the catalogue. Sir John Lubbock referred to the useful index to the Catalogue of the London Library, and concluded by saying that every true lover of books was sorry to see the neglect of the great



masterpieces of science and literature and the waste of time over "books that were no books," merely because they were new—in many cases, to use Ruskin's words, "fresh from the fount of folly."

A paper was read by Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister 'On some Tendencies of Modern Librarianship.' The present state of things was an enormous advance upon the state which existed sixty years ago. A higher standard was now required for the librarian. Wholesome literature had been provided for the young and a wide choice of books for their elders. Many time and labour saving appliances had increased the facilities for access, but it was to be feared that the librarian had not done so much as was desirable to become the adviser of the reader and to increase his own knowledge. The librarian who devoted much of his thought to mechanical contrivances was in danger of forgetting his higher functions. It was difficult to assign comparative values to the reading of fiction and of instructive books, but all sane persons loved good fiction, and a narrow spirit of exclusion of novels in favour of books which were thought to be more informing in character was to be deprecated. Dr. R. Garnett, Mr. Crunden (St. Louis), Mr. F. T. Barrett (Glasgow), Sir W. H. Bailey (Salford), Mr. Lane (Boston), and others took part in the discussion, which was chiefly devoted to the well-worn subject of novel-reading.

In a paper 'On the Evolution of the Public Library,' Mr. H. R. Tedder traced the development of the institution as part of the general history of sociology. The first libraries were temples and the first librarians were priests. The records of the earliest civilizations told us of ancient libraries and of their catalogues. There were great public libraries at Athens and at Rome, and those of Alexandria were the most famous as they were the most extensive of the ancient world. Concurrently with the spread of Christianity the formation of libraries became a part of the organization of the Church. Most of these collections were housed within the walls of the sacred edifice. There were passing allusions to libraries in the writings of the Fathers, but the real origin of the modern public library was shadowed forth in the rule of St. Benedict early in the sixth century. As the religious houses multiplied there came an ever-increasing care for the safe keeping of books. The Cluniacs had a special officer for their custody. The Carthusians and the Cistercians allowed persons outside the convent to borrow. At first the books were stored in chests in the cloister, then in recesses in the wall, then in a small windowless chamber. By the end of the fifteenth century books had accumulated to such an extent in the larger monasteries that special apartments of definite form began to be generally constructed. The early collegiate libraries borrowed their plan from the monastic type. At the end of the seventeenth century we find the form of the public library fixed, as it were, throughout Europe. That century saw the foundation of many famous institutions which still flourish. The universities prided themselves on possessing large and well-ordered public libraries. The modern type of the free library cannot be traced to a date earlier than the middle of the eighteenth century. The free library movement in England had an educational origin, and arose from the exertions on behalf of primary and secondary education which have achieved so much in the present century, and more especially within the last fifty years. The remarkable growth of rate-supported libraries in London within the last ten years has followed the work of the School Board. In the future we may expect that the facilities for borrowing books may be still further increased, and that the public library will be universally recognized as the university of the unattached student.

Mr. Melvil Dewey (Director of the State

Library, Albany, U.S.) delivered an address 'On the Relation of the State to the Public Library,' in which he urged an extension of legislation in favour of libraries. It was time that the State should recognize that libraries were not merely desirable things, but an indispensable element in education.

'Public Library Authorities, their Constitution and Powers,' was the title of a paper by Mr. Herbert Jones (Kensington Public Library). There were all sorts of conflicting modes of forming and carrying on the authority, and greater uniformity was very desirable.

'The Duties of Library Committees' were dealt with by Mr. Alderman Harry Rawson (President of the Library Association). Mr. Charles Welch followed with a paper 'On the Training of Librarians,' in which he urged the importance of a wide and liberal education, to be followed by special bibliographical and library training. Miss Hannah P. James (Osterhout Free Library, U.S.) gave an account of the library training schools and classes of the United States, and Mr. E. R. N. Mathews (Bristol) described the system of employing female library assistants at Manchester, Bristol, and elsewhere. Mr. J. J. Ogle (Bootle) discussed 'Hindrances to the Training of Efficient Librarians.'

On Wednesday, July 14th, Mr. F. M. Crunden (St. Louis Public Library) read a paper 'On Books and Text-Books: the Function of the Library in Education.'

Mr. Sidney Lee (editor of the 'Dictionary of National Biography') pointed out the relations between 'National Biography and National Bibliography.' The 'Dictionary' might be regarded as a contribution to national bibliography, and as an index to what was memorable in national literature. In the course of the discussion several speakers referred to the value of the 'Dictionary' as the foundation of any future general catalogue of English literature, and remark was made as to Mr. Lee's own life of Shakespeare. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. George Smith, and the special thanks of the Conference were voted to Mr. Smith as publisher and to Mr. Lee as the editor of that great national undertaking.

'The Relations of Bibliography and Cataloguing' were shown by Mr. A. W. Pollard (British Museum). The aim of the cataloguer was to identify a book for the visitor, while the bibliographer desired to show the relation of one book to other books. 'The Alphabetical and Classified Forms of Catalogue' were compared by Mr. F. T. Barrett (Mitchell Library, Glasgow); and Prof. C. Dziatzko (University Library, Göttingen) presented a learned review 'Of the Aid lent by Public Bodies to the Art of Printing in the Early Days of Typography.' Mr. C. A. Cutler (Northampton, U.S.) gave a description of the 'Expansive Classification of Books on the Shelves'; Mr. A. W. Robertson (Aberdeen Public Library) dealt with shelf-classification generally; Mr. H. C. L. Anderson (Public Library of New South Wales) told of 'Library Work in New South Wales'; and Mr. W. H. James Weale (National Art Library, South Kensington Museum) furnished an account of the history and cataloguing of the institution over which he presides.

### Literary Gossip.

LORD RIBBLESDALE, who was Master of the Buckhounds in the last administration, is preparing a volume of recollections of 'The Queen's Hounds and Stag-Hunting.' It will be published by Messrs. Longman, and will be illustrated by prints and drawings from Her Majesty's collections at Windsor Castle and at Cumberland Lodge.

THE Syndics of the University Press, Cambridge, have asked Mr. G. Forrest,

Director of Records, Government of India, to write 'A History of British India,' for the 'Cambridge Historical Series.' The forthcoming number of the *Pall Mall Magazine* will contain an article on 'Bombay Past and Present,' by Mr. Forrest. Writing about the Queen's statue at Bombay, Mr. Forrest states:—

"The private and personal virtues of the Queen have also become known, and enthroned Her Majesty in the hearts of many millions of her distant subjects. In a remote village in the north of India a peasant had a grievance, and he called the village schoolmaster to his aid, and they wrote a letter stating the case, and they addressed it 'To the Good Lady in England,' and the letter reached Balmoral. To be known to distant subject races as 'the Good Lady in England' is an achievement of which any monarch may well be proud."

THE Iona cross of Cornish granite, 32 ft. in height, which has been erected on the summit of Freshwater Down in memory of the late Poet Laureate, and which is henceforth to be known as the Tennyson Beacon, will be handed over on behalf of the committee of subscribers to the Corporation of the Trinity House on August 6th next, when the inscription will be unveiled by Lady Tennyson. The Archbishop of Canterbury will be present, and take part in the ceremony, which is fixed for 3 p.m.

MADAME SARAH GRAND, who has returned to London after some months' stay abroad, has brought with her the MS. of the new novel upon which she has been long occupied, and has placed it in the hands of Mr. Heinemann for publication.

PROF. LAUGHTON is working at 'The Life and Letters of Henry Reeve.' Naturally enough the book will be published by Messrs. Longman.

MR. KINGSTON, the author of 'Hertfordshire during the Civil War,' is engaged upon a work on 'East Anglia and the Great Civil War.' It will give a history of the rising in the counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Hertford. The work will be published by Mr. Elliot Stock in the early autumn.

THE Historical Society of Trinity College, Dublin, of which he was an early member, if not one of the founders, is co-operating with the National Literary Society of Ireland to celebrate the centenary of Burke's death. This month not being opportune, it is proposed to hold a public meeting next November. His Honour Judge Webb has promised to read a paper, and efforts are being made by the promoters to make the meeting representative. It is proposed to erect a tablet on the house in which Burke was born; and it is hoped that the revived interest may induce some publisher to issue a much needed complete edition of his works. Communications may be addressed to Mr. E. R. McC. Dix, 17, Kildare Street, Dublin.

DR. NUTCOMBE OXENHAM is going to take the field with a work on 'The Validity of the Papal Claims,' to which the Archbishop of York will write a preface and which Messrs. Longman will publish. The same firm promises a biography of Dr. Maples, Bishop of Likoma, in Central Africa, by his sister.

MR. PAGET TOYNBEE, who is responsible for the index of proper names appended to the Oxford edition of the complete works of Dante, has at length completed and sent to press the first part of his 'Dante Dictionary' (comprising the proper names). The volume will be published by the Clarendon Press. In the second part Mr. Toynbee proposes to deal with the vocabulary of the 'Divina Commedia' and 'Canzoniere.'

THE death is announced of Dr. Althaus, long Professor of German at University College, Gower Street, and author of 'Briefwechsel und Gespräche mit Alexander von Humboldt,' and of two volumes of 'Englische Charakterbilder.' He edited the 'Römische Tagebücher' of F. Gregorovius.

THE decease is announced of Capt. the Hon. D. Bingham, who wrote works on 'The Marriages of the Bonapartes' and 'The Marriages of the Bourbons,' and printed a 'Selection from the Letters of Napoleon I.,' also a monograph on 'The Bastille.' He was in Paris during the siege, and published 'A Journal of the Siege of Paris' in 1871. He acted as Paris correspondent of several London journals as well as of the *Scotsman*.

THE box of flowers which, thanks to the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, was put on Heine's grave, has had to be removed, as it was placed there "sans l'autorisation de la famille," and so that journal has been obliged to trouble Frau Charlotte von Embden, the poet's sister, who is now in her ninety-seventh year, for legal authority to decorate her brother's grave.

MR. PETHERICK is exhibiting the MS. (in twenty-six quarto volumes) of his bibliography of Australasia at the Library Exhibition at the Guildhall.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Education, Scotland—Annual Report by the Accountant (6d.), and List of School Boards and Particulars of Estimated Grants under the New Scotch Education Act (2d.); List of all Pensions granted during the Year ended 20th June, 1897, and charged upon the Civil List (1d.); and two further Reports on the Charities of Anglesey Parishes (6d. and 3d.).

## SCIENCE

*Prehistoric Problems.* By Robert Munro, M.D. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THE title of this book is pretentious, and yet it refers to very few really prehistoric problems, and not one of them is treated exhaustively. The manner of reproducing old work is disadvantageous to the matter. In his preface the author frankly states that one chapter (ii.) concerning "the relation between the erect posture and the physical or intellectual development of man" remains unchanged since it formed his Presidential Address to Section H, British Association, at Nottingham (1893). The rest of the book is largely made up from various articles already published or from addresses to different societies. The revision of these

papers has been so careless that it is difficult at times to determine what audience is being addressed, and the meaning is thereby unnecessarily involved or obscured, whilst needless repetitions also occur.

The book has two main divisions—anthropological and archaeological. Of the two the first is by far the better half. Dr. Munro accepts the development theory as correct, and makes an important distinction between man and his predecessors in the erect posture; but it is surprising to find some of the necessities of the case ignored, and others too faintheartedly adopted to carry conviction to a mind disposed to believe. It is not rational to subscribe to the development theory and reject Pliocene man; nor is it quite wise, even from a physiological standpoint, to disregard so largely the positive and cumulative effects of the use of tools, especially upon brain development. The preface leads to the expectation that an attempt would be made "to correlate the phenomena of man's environments with the corporeal changes necessitated by his higher intelligence." Yet exceedingly little is said concerning the preliminary steps, other than the able and suggestive comments upon the probable influences attributable to man's becoming a biped. The primary evidence of the Quaternary gravels is almost completely ignored, and the significance of re-worked derivatives in some of the oldest of these gravels is not even so much as referred to. Nor is any reference made to that long period in early man's existence when he used tools before he had acquired the art of making them, or to the still longer time in which, up to the present, no evidence has been produced of his knowledge of any use of fire. The hiatus between palæolithic and neolithic man is vaguely discussed, and it is difficult to say from this book if any such break exists or not. To "dispel the mists hovering around the fate of palæolithic man in Europe, what is now required is practical research under skilled observers." This is quite true provided those observers are free from prejudices, both personal and general. The harm done to science to-day and the hindrance of true progress by the stubborn scepticism of some of the leaders of anthropological research will stand out hereafter as a grave blot upon the splendid record of science at the latter end of our century. With a writer like Dr. Munro, who breathes out faith in evolution from nearly every page, it is greatly to be regretted that undue prominence is so often given to doubts that are direful and fears that befog. But Dr. Munro says:—

"To prevent error and safeguard the interests of scientific research, too much caution cannot be displayed in the selection of materials in support of such controverted problems as the origin and antiquity of man. It is better to reject, temporarily at least, discoveries to which any reasonable objection can be raised, than to expose the whole evidence to the attacks of unbelievers."

It is precisely this spirit that caused so long an interval to elapse before the acknowledgment of stone man's existence, after the recognition of the beautiful stone implement found in the gravels of Gray's Inn at the end of the seventeenth century, figured and described by Hearne in his preface to

Leland's 'Collectanea,' published in 1715. This same spirit leads our own scientific men to lag far behind their continental and American brethren in recognition of Tertiary man, and still more unhappily leads to the needless destruction of much priceless evidence. It is now more than forty years since the Neanderthal skull was discovered, yet the discussion is carried very little further than it then stood, even since the discovery of *Pithecanthropus erectus*.

The second half of Dr. Munro's book, devoted to the archaeological side, is weaker than the first (or anthropological). The chapter referring to prehistoric trepanning is interesting, and dwells upon a truly curious problem. So also does the final chapter, which deals with stone saws and sickles. But the uses of otter traps and bone skates do not complete the list of problems meriting attention. Wooden or bone contrivances, hinged with iron, and used for sport, are worthy of notice in a comprehensive review of human progress; but we do not expect them to occupy such disproportionate space in a book devoted to prehistoric problems when so many more important questions await discussion. The material necessary is to hand in such profuse abundance there remains no excuse for the production of volumes of so imperfect or misleading a type as this last effort of Dr. Munro. The addition of other points, if treated in the able and lucid style the author possesses, would, with his practical experience and thorough knowledge, make a book of real value to students and of considerable interest to general readers.

## CHEMICAL LITERATURE.

*An Introduction to the Study of Chemistry.* By W. H. Perkin, jun., F.R.S., and Bevan Lean. (Macmillan & Co.)—This is not an ordinary manual of elementary chemistry: it is truly an introduction to the study of chemistry. Whilst the authors have been actuated by the modern feeling that science in a school curriculum is chiefly valuable as a means of culture, and not principally for its facts—that the learner should be taught to learn how to learn—yet they have succeeded, probably unwittingly, in giving an old-fashioned flavour to their little book, reminding one of the time when laboratories and teachers were few and far between, and examinations in chemistry were unknown. This to our mind considerably enhances its value. The guiding principle in the selection and treatment of the subject-matter has been that of evolution. As the authors point out, quoting from Prof. H. A. Miers:—

"The order in which a subject can best be unfolded before a student's mind is very satisfactorily marked out by the historical development of the subject; a profitable course of teaching is suggested by the history of a science, and the order in which problems have presented themselves to successive generations is the order in which they may be most naturally presented to the individual."

Of course, in an introduction to the subject only the main roads can be followed, and not the various by-paths and blind alleys. After a few words on alchemy and the birth of chemistry, which tend to show the necessity of exact measurements, about sixty pages are devoted to measurements of length, of mass, of the volume of liquids, of temperature, of relative densities, and of the pressure of the atmosphere, each chapter being followed by some examples and well-devised exercises. Then follow chapters on change of state and on important chemical operations such as solution, crystallization, the preparation of common acids, alkalis, and salts. After this, the student is

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set to work on a series of short researches, e. g., the discovery of fixed air by the action of acids on chalk; the study of fire and air, including the discovery of "fire-air" (hydrogen) and "vitiated air" (nitrogen); the rusting of iron; the discovery of oxygen; the action of acids upon metals; water, its synthesis and analysis; and the properties of gases. In all these cases the lines of the original investigators, Black, Priestley, Scheele, Lavoisier, Cavendish, &c., are fairly closely followed. Later on the student, following the methods of Black, makes a complete research on chalk, the fullest of the exercises in the book. Other chapters, with exercises bearing on the law of definite proportions, follow, and an appendix on laboratory fittings and apparatus. It is insisted that experiments should be for the most part quantitative in character, and it is recommended that in school laboratories the boys should work in pairs; thereby time, labour, and material are saved, and the boys generally learn more than when working singly. One paragraph from the preface we most strongly recommend to the attention of all elementary teachers:—

"If any would-be chemists have not yet mastered the elements of arithmetic, decimals, the unitary system, percentages, and proportional parts, we recommend them to close this book and go back to their ciphering. There can be no sound knowledge of physics or of chemistry without mathematical backbone. There is nothing more distracting to teacher and to student than to find that laboratory results cannot be worked out for want of adequate mathematical knowledge."

It is worthy of notice that this book includes nearly all the recommendations contained in the syllabus of a course in elementary science, including physics and chemistry, issued by the Incorporated Association of Head Masters, although it was drawn up quite independently of their Committee on Science Teaching. Moreover, most of the chapters had been worked out, previous to publication, by the authors' own elementary students at Owens College, and in the laboratories of various schools where elementary science is well taught, so that they have been properly tested. In some few cases the lessons suggested appear to be rather too long to be satisfactorily carried out in the time mentioned as the maximum desirable, one and a half hours; but the individual teacher can modify them to allow for the time at his disposal. The authors are to be most sincerely congratulated both on their effort to produce a good introduction to the study of natural philosophy and on their accomplishment; the method and the matter are alike excellent, and the historical notes and anecdotes occasionally quoted add a living and human interest to the subject which will serve to attract many a young student. We can most cordially recommend this little book and wish it every success. It is well printed and got up, there are 136 useful figures, and misprints are very few; but on p. 274 washing soda should be described as *mild* alkali rather than "milk" alkali, and on p. 63 the figure of the cistern of a barometer would be better if it were not upside down.

*The Detection and Measurement of Inflammable Gas and Vapour in the Air.* By Frank Clowes. With a Chapter on the Detection and Measurement of Petroleum Vapour, by Boverton Redwood. (Crosby Lockwood & Son.)—Prof. Clowes has summed up in this book the results of the investigations which he has been pursuing for several years, primarily on the detection and estimation of small quantities of firedamp in the air of coal mines. Most of the volume has been published before in the *Proceedings* of the Royal Society, the *Journal* of the Society of Arts, or in *Transactions* of different Institutes of Mining Engineers. Some fresh matter, however, is added. A summary of the work of Dr. Haldane on the poisonous properties and detection of carbonic oxide (from the *Journal of Physiology*) is given; and there

is a chapter on atmospheres which extinguish flame and which are irrespirable, with special reference to carbon dioxide. The historical summary of methods of gas-testing used in coal mines is interesting, and leads up to a description of Dr. Clowes's well-known improvements in the flame-cap test, which consist mainly in substituting a standard hydrogen flame, under control, for the oil, alcohol, or other flame, formerly used. At the end of various chapters Dr. Clowes reprints some of his original papers on the subject dealt with in the chapter, a custom not to be commended as it leads to needless repetition and is apt to be tedious. Not the least interesting and important part of the book is that by Mr. Redwood, on the detection and measurement of petroleum vapour in air. This is of the greatest importance in testing the air in the holds of vessels or in other enclosed spaces where petroleum has been stored, and Mr. Redwood, in consultation with Dr. Clowes and with the assistance of Messrs. W. J. Fraser & Co., has devised a modification of Clowes's hydrogen lamp which renders it possible to detect with certainty very small quantities of petroleum vapour in air, and so to take precautions which will prevent explosions such as that which occurred on the steamship *Tancarville* in 1891, when five men were killed. Board of Trade regulations now require such examinations to be made, and also require a regular inspection of street boxes and other receptacles for electric lines in order to detect any accumulation of coal gas which may have occurred there; for these tests the Clowes-Redwood testing apparatus seems to be admirably adapted. We are sorry that both Dr. Clowes and Mr. Redwood call the mineral mica by the name *talc*; we are aware that this is a rather common trade custom, but it should not be encouraged in a work pretending to scientific accuracy. A coloured frontispiece shows the appearance of the standard hydrogen flame with flame-caps caused by varying percentages of marsh gas and of light petroleum vapour; less than one-quarter per cent. of marsh gas in the air can readily be detected, and one-twentieth per cent. of light petroleum vapour. Dr. Clowes states that the danger of an explosion from a mixture of other gases with air is greatest in the case of hydrogen and least in the case of marsh gas, because in the latter case explosive mixtures are only formed when between 5 per cent. and 13 per cent. of the hydrocarbon is present in the air, but with hydrogen from 5 per cent. to 72 per cent. forms an explosive mixture. But from the figures given by Clowes, acetylene is even more dangerous, as from 3 to 82 per cent. in the air forms an explosive mixture. This is partly due to the explosive decomposition of acetylene itself into its elements under certain conditions, and is of some importance now that calcium carbide has become a commercial article for the production of acetylene. A useful bibliography concludes the volume.

#### THE MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association, which aims at rendering to the museums of our country a similar service to that which the Library Association renders to its libraries, was held last week at Oxford, under the presidency of Prof. Ray Lankester. The President received the members at Exeter College on Tuesday evening, and the business of the session was opened the following morning by a presidential address on museums, with special reference to those of Oxford. Many of the communications which followed were appropriately descriptive of the local collections: thus Prof. Miers described the mode in which he has recently arranged the mineral collections; Mr. Henry Balfour explained the system on which the Pitt-Rivers Museum is arranged; Mr. Goodrich entered into details respecting the methods adopted for mounting specimens in the zoo-

logical museum; and Prof. Poulton enlarged on the various modes of mounting Lepidoptera. Among communications of a more general nature were those of Prof. Flinders Petrie, in which he advocated the formation of a staff of travelling specialists to visit museums and aid the curators; and of Mr. F. W. Rudler, dealing with the principles adopted in the arrangement of ethnographical collections. Mr. Howarth, one of the secretaries, discussed the circulation system of the Department of Science and Art. Prof. Talmage, from Utah, described the occurrence of the gigantic crystals of selenite which he has presented to Oxford and to many other museums in this country. Most of the papers led to discussions which were well sustained and marked by a very practical character. Visits were made to all the Oxford museums, under the guidance of the professors and curators. On Thursday evening a brilliant reception was held in the Ashmolean Museum by Mr. Arthur Evans and Prof. Percy Gardner. Sir John Evans also took an active part at the conversazione. On this occasion Dr. Drury Fortnum's Jubilee gift to the University was for the first time exhibited. It consists of his valuable collection of finger rings, numbering more than eight hundred specimens, and illustrating the history of rings from the earliest types. The Association, in bringing a very successful meeting to a close on the Friday, warmly acknowledged the services of Mr. Balfour, who, in Prof. Lankester's absence, presided with admirable tact at many of the meetings.

#### SOCIETIES.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—July 7th.—Judge Baylis, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. F. G. Hilton Price exhibited a water-bailiff's silver mace, 6 in. long, consisting of a tube or barrel surmounted with the royal crown. At the lower end of the tube is a small seal-shaped cap which unscrews. This tube or barrel is the receptacle for a silver oar 4½ in. in length. When the water-bailiff, or constable, was ordered to board a ship to arrest some offender he would proceed to unscrew the end, withdraw the little oar, refix the cap, and screw the oar into a hole in the cap, thus forming an instrument 10½ in. in length. When closed it formed a constable's staff for service on shore. The hall-mark on the mace is nearly obliterated, but the shaft of the oar bears a hall-mark, with date-letter P for the year 1830, and the maker's mark F. H.—Chancellor Ferguson exhibited a hippo-sandal, in which he had placed a horse's hoof, showing it to be undoubtedly a horse-shoe, and probably used to protect a broken or injured hoof. It was discovered in a Romano-British village near Kirkby Lonsdale, in Westmoreland. He also exhibited two hippo-sandals of neo-archaic date, one from Poulton-in-the-Fylde, in Lancashire, the other from the banks of the Solway, and both formed to enlarge the surface of the tread so as to prevent the horse sinking in the soft mosses once peculiar to the districts. Chancellor Ferguson also exhibited three photographs of an iron chest which was recently brought to light in the Post Office at Carlisle, being very similar to one in the Iron Room at South Kensington, and labelled "Coffer or Deed Chest, wrought iron painted—German 16th Century."—Mr. Somers Clarke read a paper "On some Social Customs of the Copts." The paper, written in English by a Coptic gentleman in Cairo, Simaika Bey, was a brief account of the customs observed at weddings, christenings, and on the death of a relative, most of these usages being of the highest antiquity, some dating unquestionably from pre-Christian times. Many of these are fast disappearing. The writer explained that in the matter of the choice of a wife the parents acted entirely as they thought fit, the young people having no voice in the matter. The ceremony of betrothal was described, and the celebration of the wedding, with the illumination of the house, feasting, &c., and, finally, the actual wedding or "crowning" ceremony, celebrated either at the bridegroom's house or in the church. The customary ceremonies at the birth and christening of a child were also described. The child receives its name on the seventh day after birth, but is not usually christened until the lapse of, in the case of a male child, forty days, or of a female, eighty days, this ceremony always taking place in church. The retention of senseless customs at the occurrence of death was regretted—frightful lamentations and cries on the part of the women, hired singers to proclaim the virtues of the deceased, virtues perhaps undiscovered until the last moment. For

forty days after the death the women of the house cry and wail two or three times a day, and the mourning continues a whole year. An intense conservatism retains these customs among the women, whilst they are viewed with regret by the men.—Prof. B. Lewis read a paper 'On the Gallo-Roman Museum at Sens.' It consists of stones discovered by excavating the walls of this city; they had been taken from sepulchral monuments and other structures, and used as building materials to fortify the place against attacks of barbarians. The stones may be divided into two classes—those that are inscribed, and those that are sculptured. Amongst the former the most remarkable inscriptions, seven in number, relate to the family of Magilius Honoratus, which held a high position at Lyons also. Another epigraph is short, but interesting; it records the erection of a colonnade and covered walk (*porticus et ambulatorium*), and a distribution of wine and oil by magistrates, probably *Ædiles*, at their own expense (*proprits impensis*). The reliefs include a great variety of subjects—mythological, domestic, and funeral. Most important among them is the one that represents a scene from the legend of Iphigenia in Tauris. Orestes appears as a prisoner with his hands tied behind his back, but the priestess desires them to be loosed, because he is a victim devoted to the goddess Diana (*Artemis*). In this series we find many persons engaged in the trades and occupations of daily life, e.g., a bird-catcher, a fuller, a tailor, a musician holding cymbals, and painters decorating the wall of a house *al fresco*. Architectural fragments are very numerous—cornices, capitals of columns, and friezes—indicating the great prosperity of the city under the Roman empire.

### Science Gossip.

A NEW scientific series will make its appearance during the course of the autumn. Mr. Beddard, F.R.S., is the editor, and Messrs. Bliss, Sands & Co. are the publishers. It will be entitled "The Progressive Science Series," a title which is intended to be indicative of the character and scope of the volumes as opposed to a series whose object is merely historical or expository. In other words, the volumes will endeavour to point towards the line of future discoveries in each particular branch, and save investigators the trouble of going over ground that has recently been trodden without result. Prof. Cope will write on 'Vertebrate Palæontology,' Mr. Geikie on 'Earth Structure,' Mr. St. George Mivart on 'The Groundwork of Science,' and Mr. Bonney on 'Volcanoes.' Other volumes are in contemplation on heredity in relation to crime, in both its legal and scientific aspects; on the relation between science and religion; upon the animal ovum; and possibly a volume upon marriage and divorce. The series in its entirety will comprise volumes on every branch of science, some half dozen or more being published in each year at first. Only editions of moderate numbers will be published, to enable the various works to be altered at short intervals should their authors deem it necessary, thereby keeping them thoroughly up to date. The first volume may be expected early in October.

MESSRS. ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE & Co. propose to publish shortly a 'Life of Sir Charles Tilston Bright,' the distinguished engineer and pioneer of electric telegraphy, who was knighted when but twenty-six years of age for laying the first Atlantic cable. The work, compiled by a brother and son, is based largely on the diaries kept by Sir Charles Bright, and reads like an autobiographical narrative of truly stirring events. It will be issued by subscription in two volumes, and the number printed will be strictly limited.

ON July 6th Dr. Albert von Kolliker celebrated a double festival—his eightieth birthday, and the fiftieth anniversary of his appointment as Professor of Physiology and Comparative Anatomy at the University of Würzburg. The venerable biologist, who received greetings from learned societies in all parts of the globe, is a native of Zürich, where he was born in 1817. After studying in the university of his native town, and afterwards at Bonn and Berlin, he

was appointed in 1845 to the Chair of Physiology in Zürich. Two years later he was invited to Würzburg, where he has laboured for the last half century. He visited his native city last year at the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Naturforschende Gesellschaft, of which he has been a member for fifty years, and surprised all his colleagues by his freshness and vigour in the discussions. The second quarterly "Heft" of the *Jahrschrift* of the Society, which was published on July 6th, contains an excellent portrait of Prof. Kolliker.

D'ARREST's periodical comet was detected by Mr. Perrine at the Lick Observatory on the morning of the 29th ult., its place at the time being approximately R.A. 2 1", N.P.D. 83° 46', in the north-eastern part of the constellation Cetus. According to M. Leveau's ephemeris it is moving in a nearly easterly direction, and is now on the border line of Taurus and Eridanus; but it is not likely that any more observations will be possible at the present return. This comet was first discovered by D'Arrest at Leipzig on June 27th, 1851. It has always been a very faint object; the period is about six and a half years, and it was observed in 1857, 1870, 1877, and 1890, but not at the returns of 1864 and 1884, on which occasions it was unfavourably placed. The next return, in the autumn of 1903, will probably take place under somewhat better conditions for observation. It is the first comet of the present year.

### FINE ARTS

#### EGYPTOLOGICAL LITERATURE.

*The Land of the Monuments.* By J. Pollard. (Hodder & Stoughton.)—This book is a carefully written account of a trip which Mr. Pollard made to Egypt in recent years, and is illustrated by fifteen plates and a map. It is addressed neither to the expert nor to the ignorant, and it appears to be an honest record of the impressions which Mr. Pollard's travels in Egypt have made upon his mind; many people write such in letters to friends or in diaries, but few print them. He accepts unhesitatingly all the recent identifications of Biblical sites made by explorers in the Delta, and he is untroubled by the many difficulties and doubts which beset the path of the historical student. He knows his Bible well—a rare qualification in these days—and his references to Biblical parallels are tolerably complete. His authorities are often antiquated, but there is no doubt that he has used the various guide-books to Egypt with great diligence, and that he has reproduced with fair correctness the greater part of the information which he has derived from them. Mr. Pollard has nothing new to say, and his theorizings are few; here and there, however, he makes slips. Thus on p. 191 he confuses the god Ap-ut with Anpu; they are distinct gods, although each is depicted in the form of a jackal. The word *ab* ("to pour out water") has nothing whatever to do with the Greek *βάπτω* (p. 201); the Coptic word for king is derived not from the old Egyptian word for *uraeus*, but from the old Egyptian word *ur*, "prince, governor, great man," and the like; the word "Pharaoh" has nothing whatever to do with the Coptic words for "the king," but is derived from the two ancient Egyptian words *per a*, which mean "great house," i.e., the house in which all men live (p. 229); in the Egyptian word printed on p. 393 there is a misprint ("pa" for *cha*); and the name of the village *Balyāna* is spelt "Bellianeh" (p. 197). Mr. Pollard's book has an index, but it omits important names like Girgeh, Nefert, Rā-hotep, Aah-hotep, and many others.

*Die Entstehung des ältesten Schriftsystems, oder der Ursprung der Keilschriftzeichen.* Dargelegt von F. Delitzsch. (Leipzig, Hinrichs.)—This essay on the origin of the cuneiform

character, though closely reasoned and carefully written, will not carry conviction into the mind of the general reader, for theory and fact are so mixed in it that it is difficult to see where the one ends and the other begins. Besides this, the book is lithographed, and is therefore not easy to read. Having stated that the cuneiform character was used all over Western Asia, from Elam on the east to the Mediterranean on the west, and from Armenia on the north to the Persian Gulf on the south, Dr. Delitzsch goes on to describe the attempts which others and himself have made to explain the system of the cuneiform characters, and decides, rightly we think, that they are of pictorial origin. But, according to him, their inventors were masters both of sign combinations and of wedge combinations; thus the compound sign for "slave" is composed of the signs for "man + captive," and the sign for "moon" or "month" can, by the mere mechanical addition of signs, be made to indicate "new moon" or "beginning of the month" and "full moon" or "middle of the month." A curious theory worked out partially in the book is that the inventors—who, by the way, Dr. Delitzsch thinks were priests—modified the meaning of signs systematically by the addition of three or four wedges. Thus the sign *bu* means "long," but with three wedges inserted "very long"; and the sign *si* "full," with three wedges inserted "very full, overflowing." This may be so, for the old Egyptians added three strokes after a word to express plurality or majesty, and so far as we can see the ancient scribes of Babylonia and of Egypt followed the same plan in such matters. The addition to a simple sign of a number of wedges to modify the meaning was called by the Sumerians "gunu," i.e., "load," and Dr. Delitzsch shows that the "Guniierung" or "loading" of signs was very common. We think that he presses his theory overmuch in the chapters which relate to it. He distinguishes 45 *Urbiiden* and signs which have a "motive," and thinks that about 400 ingenious combinations were made from them; G. Smith, however, tabulated 180 "original signs." Some of Dr. Delitzsch's conclusions are interesting, especially one in which he proves that (p. 194) the sign for "man" is a picture of a man kneeling or lying flat on the ground in adoration before a god, thus indicating that man is *par excellence* the "praying animal." The chapter on the civilization of the inventors of the cuneiform writing is good, but there is nothing new in it, and the facts are "evidential." We are glad to note that Dr. Delitzsch has profited by the extracts from cuneiform texts, giving proofs of the existence of the languages of Sumer and Acad, which Dr. Bezold has published in his 'Catalogue' on pp. 1200, 1354, 1469, and 1805; to doubt after this would be folly. During the past few years attempts have been made to show that the Phœnician alphabet was derived from the cuneiform signs of Babylonia, and that the values of the letters were obtained by akrophony, in the same way as the Persian cuneiform alphabet was derived from the later Assyrian or Babylonian signs. Among those who hold this view Dr. Delitzsch has ranged himself, and he is quite certain (p. 226) that fifteen Phœnician letters have their origin in Babylonian "primitive signs" of the first or second grade. He states quite definitely, too, that all attempts to derive the Phœnician alphabet from the Egyptian hieratic or hieroglyphics have ended in an absolute fiasco, which, in his opinion, cannot be denied (p. 223). Now here we think that Dr. Delitzsch is getting out of his depth, and by making statements of this nature on points of which he knows nothing he courts hostile criticism. The great defect of his present work is the absence of any general archaeological knowledge displayed therein. A good example of this is his omission to show that the chief factor in the modification of cuneiform signs was the material upon which they were

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written. Further, if he examines the signs which M. Amiaud gave in his list, he will see that a number of his general statements are untenable; and we cannot help wondering what Dr. Delitzsch will say when he examines the terribly complex signs in the early Babylonian texts which the Trustees of the British Museum have just published. Dr. Delitzsch's book is one to be trusted where his knowledge is adequate; but he is not an archaeologist, and he has made no special study of his own subject from the general standpoint of anthropology and comparative ethnology.

TWO PORTRAITS OF SWIFT.

Klea Avenue, Clapham, S.W.

THE portrait, a half-length, to which the Earl of Oxford refers in the letter quoted by your correspondent Mr. Temple Scott, was sold at the earl's sale in 1741/2 (March 10th, lot 37) for ten guineas to Lord Chesterfield. It was not in Lord Chesterfield's sale by Mr. Christie in April, 1782, and may have been bequeathed to some one, or it may still be in possession of the present representative of the family. The Bodleian possesses a good portrait—a bust, attributed to Jervas. This was at the South Kensington Exhibition in 1867. Bindon's portrait of Swift, also a bust, was lent to the same exhibition by Judge Berwick. It is No. 143 in the Catalogue, and its present whereabouts can doubtless be easily ascertained.

W. ROBERTS.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 10th inst. the following pictures, from various collections: Sir T. Lawrence, Portrait of Elizabeth Gott, 892*l.*; Portrait of Benjamin Gott, Esq., 1,732*l.*; Portraits of the Misses Fanny and Jane Hamond, 1,470*l.*; Portraits of the Misses Fullarton, 2,310*l.*; G. Romney, Lady Hamilton as a Bacchante, 1,995*l.*; Portrait of a Lady, seated under a tree, 750*l.*; Head of a Young Lady, 325*l.*; Head of a Lady, turned to the right, 220*l.*; Portrait of John Walter Tempest, 1,260*l.*; Portrait of Diana (Whittaker), Lady Hamlyn Williams, 115*l.*; Lady Hamilton as Meditation, 1,029*l.*; Sir H. Raeburn, Edward S. Fraser, 346*l.*; William Fraser, jun., of Reelg, 420*l.*; Edward S. Fraser, 483*l.*; Alexander Charles Fraser, jun., of Reelg, 630*l.*; James Baillie Fraser, of Reelg, 399*l.*; George John Fraser, of Reelg, 672*l.*; Jane Anne Catherine Fraser, of Reelg, 882*l.*; Alexander Fraser Tytler, Lord Woodhouselee, 225*l.*; Jane Fraser Tytler, daughter of Lord Woodhouselee, 1,312*l.*; Portrait of Miss Story, of Silkstone Hall, Durham, 168*l.*; D. Teniers, The Prodigal Son, a farmyard with figures and animals, 194*l.*; An Interior, with nine monkeys, 199*l.*; An Alchemist, in his laboratory, 504*l.*; Weenix, Sculptured Vases, 105*l.*; Mareschi, A Canal Scene, with figures, 252*l.*; A Scene on the Grand Canal, Venice, 252*l.*; A Canal, with bridge and figures, 236*l.*; The Rialto, Venice, 220*l.*; Murillo, The Magdalen, 813*l.*; P. Nasmyth, A Woody Landscape, with a horseman under some trees, 189*l.*; J. Russell, The Favourite Rabbit, 383*l.*; J. Lotens, A Grand Landscape, with a forest on the left, 189*l.*; J. Crome, A Landscape in Norfolk, with two donkeys under a tree, 147*l.*; Rubens, Portrait of the Archduke Albert of Austria, and Portrait of Isabella Clara Eugenia, Infanta of Spain, 714*l.*; J. Stark, A Road through a Wood, with sheep, 136*l.*; G. Stuart, The Duke (the Union Duke) and Duchess of Queensberry (Kitty Hyde), and their two sons, 399*l.*; Sir J. Reynolds, Portrait of George Selwyn, 420*l.*; Portrait of a Lady, 336*l.*; F. Cotes, Portrait of a Young Lady, 105*l.*

The same auctioneers sold on the 12th inst. the following pictures: Anonymous, Portrait of a Young Lady, in white dress, with black cloak, 141*l.*; T. Gainsborough, Portrait of a Lady, in red dress, 105*l.*

Fine-Art Gossip.

IN the gallery of the Fine-Art Society may be seen three collections of drawings: some works, mainly with a pen in ink, by Mr. Linley Sambourne, and some fine and delicate achievements with the same materials by Mr. Hugh Thomson, and also a series of silver-point drawings by Mr. C. Sainton, which he calls "Fancies." The first are nearly a hundred in number, and include a considerable proportion which have been cut in wood and published in *Punch*, where they are so well known that to speak of Mr. Sambourne's bold and effective method of drawing, his somewhat heavy touch, and characteristic style is needless. The satirist's subjects are chiefly, as everybody knows, Mr. Gladstone and the Emperor of Germany. The best of the examples before us, all of which are, artistically speaking, superior to the woodcuts which reproduced them, seem to be No. 10, the late Premier examining "the Liberal majority" with a serviceable microscope; No. 14, 'Mr. Gladstone reading Lord Rosebery's Speech'; No. 29, Mr. Gladstone counselling Prince Bismarck to "Do as I do, and stick to post-cards!" and No. 67, the "Imperial Artist" regretting that he has not been able to finish his picture in time for the Academy, where it was "sure to be accepted." Of Mr. Thomson's drawings it may be said that they suffer in translation even more—or, rather, much more—than Mr. Sambourne's. They are illustrations—ninety in all—to Miss Austen's 'Emma,' of which the best is "Who should come in but Elizabeth and her brother," "He stooped to look in," "I am very sorry to hear, Miss Fairfax," to 'Sense and Sensibility,' of which we prefer "They sang together"; and to Mr. Austin Dobson's 'Rosina,' of which "I'm the tallest" is the most charming. Mr. Sainton's silver-points, as usual with him, show an exquisite sense of beauty of a certain sort, his extremely delicate touch (without which silver-point is a terrible snare), and the grace and animation of the figures he affects. Some of these designs are more than commonly choice: for instance, 'An Idyll,' a very pretty group indeed, 'A Fire-fly,' 'La Belle du Village,' and 'Spring.' The Fine-Art Society intends to reproduce in facsimile ten of the fourteen drawings by Mr. Sainton, and publish them in a portfolio.

At Messrs. Obach & Co.'s, Cockspur Street, may now be seen, amongst other works, M. Harpignies's landscape 'Solitude,' praised in these columns by M. Michel (*Athen.* No. 3631); to it the Médaille d'Honneur of this year's Salon was awarded.

MESSRS. BLISS, SANDS & Co. have in preparation, and will publish not later than October 15th, a large work on 'Christ and His Mother in Italian Art,' edited by Canon Eyton and Julia Cartwright (Mrs. Ady). It consists of fifty examples of the most famous Madonnas, Holy Families, Nativities, Crucifixions, and other subjects portraying the various incidents in the life of Jesus Christ. A portfolio of india proofs of these plates for the purpose of framing will accompany the volume.

A MONOGRAPH on 'The Church Towers of Somersetshire,' containing fifty-one etchings by Mr. E. Piper, Member of the Royal Society of Painter-Etchers, is announced by Messrs. Frost & Reed, of Bristol. The work will contain a general introduction and a descriptive article upon each church by Mr. J. L. W. Page.

The collections of china, curios, and old furniture of the late Mr. G. T. Robinson are to be sold by Messrs. Christie & Manson on Thursday and Friday next.

A GRANT from the Treasury has enabled the British Museum authorities to add a large number of coins, secured chiefly at the Montagu and Bunbury sales, to the collection during the

year 1896. The new acquisitions, many of which are of considerable beauty and rarity, include an Italian *aes signatum*, belonging probably to the latter half of the fourth century; a gold quarter-stater of Tarentum; brazen coins of Heraclea and Laus (Lucania), Caulonia and Terina (Bruttii); several Sicilian specimens; tetradrachms of Amphipolis and Chalcidice, with two types of Apollo; a drachm of Magnetes with a very fine and carefully executed head of Zeus; a remarkable tetradrachm of Nabis, ruler of Lacedæmon, of extreme rarity, whose genuineness is proved by the unusual form of the tyrant's name which it bears; two fine specimens of the electrum coinage of Lesbos; a very rare stater of Alexander II. Zebina; and a tetradrachm of Parthia with a fine bust of Mithradates I.

M. ALBERT MAIGNAN is to paint the ceiling of the *salle* of the new Opéra Comique, Paris, and for the *grand foyer* MM. Mercié and Falguère are to execute statues, that by the former representing L'Opéra Comique, that of the latter Le Drame Lyrique.

MUSIC

*English Minstrelsie: a National Monument of English Song.* Collated and edited, with Notes and Historical Introductions, by S. Baring-Gould, M.A. Vol. VII. (Edinburgh, Jack.)

THE editor, of whom an excellent portrait appears at the head of this volume, has written, by way of introduction, an 'Essay on English Folk-Music,' in which he tells some of the difficulties of the undertaking to which he has devoted so much time and attention. Many a weary and often unsuccessful tramp has he taken up hill and down dale to collect material—material which, when found, had to be carefully noted down and sifted. "A collector," says our editor, "must be furnished with infinite patience and put up with much disappointment." Patience is undoubtedly necessary, but the task also demands infinite tact. If, in search of some rare book or manuscript, a scholar addresses himself to the curator of some great library or to some eminent *savant*, he will, as a rule, find either ready and most willing to render him all assistance in his researches. But the aged poor, the blind, the lame, are—to use a favourite expression of Mr. Gould's—difficult to "draw." Most are shy, and, just as counsel have often to go to work in a very roundabout way to extort from a nervous witness some statement or admission, so the earnest collector has to humour these humble country folk, to listen patiently to their talk, and seize the lucky moment in which, forgetting they are being interviewed, they sing one or more quaint old melodies, which are at once noted down and thus rescued from oblivion.

With regard to this noting down of melodies the reverend gentleman is quite frank. This is what he says:—

"Now I myself can note a melody if I can bring my singer to a piano; but I cannot write—or, as he would say, prick down—the air without this assistance. I might, perhaps, induce an old minstrel to come to my house, but the majority of singers were not to be lured from their own houses further than the tavern, and in neither was there a piano."

So he called to his aid "skilled musicians," the Rev. H. Fleetwood Sheppard, the

Rev. F. W. Bussell, and Mr. W. H. Hopkinson, A.R.C.O., to help him in his task. This noting or pricking down of melodies is a matter of immense importance. The singing of uncultured peasants, of aged village folk, is often very uncertain, and the most careful transcriber may easily be misled. Mr. Gould and his associates, however, seem to have taken every precaution. Versions of the same melody, noted down in various places, often widely removed, were compared. Nay, even more was done. But we had best quote Mr. Gould's own words:

"After a while, we came to see that when a singer had been singing for some time he lost his power of individualising a melody.....When we were thus in doubt about a melody.....we laid it aside, waited a few days, and then asked the man to begin with that song, whereupon we were able to correct the errors on the previous occasion."

Our editor utters a note of warning. "It is," he says, "a most unfortunate thing that no one has thought of gathering together the folk-airs till quite recently, when they are trembling on the verge of oblivion." And he also makes a useful suggestion. "Much," he says, "might be done by ladies." He means, of course, much more, for already Miss Lucy Broadwood, Miss Bidder, and one or two other ladies have devoted themselves to the work. Certain counties—Northumberland, Sussex, Devon, and Cornwall—have been explored, yet nothing has been done for the other counties. The fields are overripe, but the labourers as yet are few.

### THE WEEK.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—'Le Nozze di Figaro'; 'Inez Mendo'; 'Don Juan.'  
QUEEN'S HALL.—Festival Concert.

It was a happy thought of the present Covent Garden management to restore Mozart's original harpsichord accompaniments to the *recitativo secco* in 'Le Nozze di Figaro' and 'Don Juan.' The late Sir Michael Costa and other conductors had a singular fondness for the ugly scrape of a violoncello and a double-bass, and latterly the full force of strings has been employed. Of course, neither method is according to the intentions of the composer, and the reversion to the style of a century ago may therefore be highly commended. Mr. Arnold Dolmetsch is a master on the harpsichord, and did his work right well. The general performance was very even and, if the term may be pardoned, thoroughly Mozartean, Madame Eames as the Countess, Madame Clementine de Vere (a youthful and charming *débutante*) as Suzanne, Mlle. Zélie de Lussan as Cherubino, M. Édouard de Reszké as the Count, and Signor Ancona as Figaro, fulfilling their respective tasks in a manner worthy of unqualified praise.

It is now necessary to pass to the consideration of 'Inez Mendo,' an opera produced for the first time on any stage on Saturday last, and though the verdict of the audience may be distrusted, the initial reception was highly favourable. The composer is M. F. d'Erlanger, who, in order that he may not be confounded with some one else of the same name, has adopted that of Frédéric Regnal. He has chosen for his musical inspiration in this instance an early play by Prosper Mérimée, in which there is an unpleasant

odour, though a pulsation of humanity. The scene is laid in Galicia, the period being 1640, and the story is quite as Spanish as that of 'Carmen.' Don Salvador de Mendoza, son of the Duke of Mendoza, is in love with Inez Mendo, the daughter of Juan Mendo, a farmer, who is also, by Galician law, public executioner by heredity, though he has never been called upon to perform his detestable duty. Quite contrary to preconceived ideas of Spanish etiquette, the Duke comes to the farmer, and in a smiling manner asks for the hand of Inez for his son. Knowing his dreadful secret, Mendo gives his consent with reluctance; and then joy begins to turn into grief. A frivolous dragoon officer, Carlos Sandoval, serenades Inez, and, being challenged by the genuine lover, is dispatched. The penalty for fatal duelling is death, and after concealing himself for a while in the rooms of Inez, Salvador gives himself up to justice, and is duly condemned to execution. On the morning of the fateful day, however, he is permitted to wed Inez, and we witness a little of this mournful marriage ceremony. Juan Mendo declares that, as he has the choice between two weapons, an axe and a dagger, he throws the axe away and stabs himself with the poignard, just as the Duke arrives hurriedly with a royal pardon. In this state of uncertainty as to what ensues the opera comes to an end.

With respect to the music, it may be said at once that if M. Regnal is an amateur, he understands how to compose as few amateurs have done in the history of the art. The score is perhaps a trifle thin in places as regards orchestration, and of evidence of individuality we have as little as 'Der Evangelimann' shows. The latter is typically German, and 'Inez Mendo' is equally French with a few touches of Spanish colouring. Leading themes are freely employed with effect, and it may be said, to M. Regnal's credit, that his concerted music is admirably written throughout, displaying evidence of a well-trained hand. Further, there is evidence of sincerity in feeling, both in the light and in the serious and tragic portions of the opera; and if it would be idle to expect permanent success for 'Inez Mendo,' it is a work that entitles us to hope for much more original work from the same source. As regards the Covent Garden performance, we have little but praise to offer. In the titular rôle Madame Saville sings and acts pleasantly, and M. Alvarez, though he was not in his best voice last Saturday, is eminently qualified for the character of Don Salvador. M. Renaud as Juan Mendo is a very pathetic figure, and M. Journet, M. Dufrane, M. Bonnard, M. Jacques Bars, and Mlle. Bauermeister did well.

Turning to the consideration of 'Don Giovanni' on Tuesday this week, good opinions may be freely expressed, though it is certainly rather amusing that an opera written in Italian on a Spanish subject by a German composer should be performed in French in an English opera-house. Such, however, was the case on this occasion, and it is only justice to say that Mozart's score did not suffer very much by this curious polyglot arrangement. M. Renaud was gallant in bearing, handsome in appear-

ance, and vocally commendable as the Don; and a new-comer, M. Fugère, created a very favourable impression as Leporello, as he not only looked the character well, but acted with all needful force and humour. M. Bonnard as Don Ottavio, M. Journet as the Commendatore, Mlle. Zélie de Lussan as Zerlina, and Miss Macintyre as Elvira, earned warm applause; but Madame Adiny was not altogether satisfactory as Donna Anna, as her voice seemed rather harsh and unsympathetic. Mr. Arnold Dolmetsch was again highly satisfactory in his harpsichord accompaniments to the so-called "dry" recitatives.

The orchestral and choral concert at the Queen's Hall on Thursday last week in favour of the Naval and Marine Engineers' International Congress, which was given in honour of the foreign delegates, could scarcely have passed off more successfully, a measure of *éclat* being given to the occasion by the fact that over two hundred choristers from Leeds and neighbouring towns came to the metropolis for the performance. It was somewhat misleading to state that they were members of the Leeds Festival Choir, for the chorus employed at the triennial gatherings on each occasion is a specially selected body, disbanded as soon as the celebration is at an end. This fact, however, need not interfere with cordial appreciation of the Yorkshire singers, for the performance may be recorded as successful to a great degree. The principal choral efforts were Dr. Hubert Parry's ode 'Blest Pair of Sirens,' a superb work which always grows on acquaintance; the Prologue to 'The Golden Legend,' a work which it may be remembered was first produced at the Leeds Festival in 1886; and those splendid choruses 'The people shall hear' and 'The horse and his rider' from 'Israel in Egypt.' All these were grandly rendered, the sonority of the voices being almost amazing. Sir Alexander Mackenzie's bright and clever overture 'Britannia,' Brahms's equally brilliant 'Academic' Overture, and Tchaikowsky's fantasia for orchestra on the subject of Francesca da Rimini, were admirably played under the direction of Prof. Villiers Stanford by an orchestra of nearly one hundred and twenty performers, mainly past and present pupils of the Royal College of Music. Madame Albani and Mr. Andrew Black were entirely successful in their solo efforts.

### Musical Gossip.

AFTERNOON concerts during the fashionable season at private residences have rarely any artistic importance, but that for which Mlle. Pauline Joran was responsible at No. 4, Grosvenor Gardens, the residence of the Viscount and Viscountess Wolseley, on Thursday last week was above the average of this class of entertainment, for in addition to Mlle. Joran, who was equally acceptable as a vocalist and a violinist, Miss Elise Joran displayed considerable taste as a pianist, and Miss Rosa Green, Signor Ancona, Señor Guetary, Mr. Alfred Gallrein, and Mr. Joseph O'Mara took part in the concert, which concluded with Ferdinando Paer's pretty one-act opera 'Il Maestro di Cappella,' which, it may be remembered, was revived at the Prince of Wales's Theatre last year.

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SIX so-called Wagner Concerts are announced to be given by Mr. Schulz-Curtius in the Queen's Hall during the next season. The conductors will be Herr Mottl, Herr Richard Strauss, Herr Weingartner, and Herr Levi. The concerts cannot fail to prove of the highest interest, though, of course, full particulars are not yet to hand.

THE Committee of the Halle Memorial Fund have presented a scholarship in the pianoforte department of the value of 30*l.* per annum to the Royal Manchester College of Music, the same to be called the "Sir Charles Halle Scholarship." The trustee of the late Elizabeth Read has also presented a scholarship of the value of 30*l.* per annum to the College for young women of proved musical ability whose means are insufficient to pay the College fees.

HERR SIEGFRIED WAGNER's comic opera based on one of Grimm's fairy stories may be heard in London during the autumn.

AN arrangement has been made for an Italian version of 'Der Evangelimann' to be produced in the principal towns in the peninsula.

#### PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

- Mus. Madame Norcross's Matinée Musicale, 3, No. 38, Hyde Park Gardens.  
 — Royal Academy of Music Excelsior Society's Concert, 8, Royal Academy of Music.  
 — Royal Opera, Covent Garden.  
 THEATRE. Concert of Prize-Winners at the Music Trades Exhibition, 8, Agricultural Hall.  
 — Operatic Performance, Selections from 'Don Giovanni,' 8, Royal Academy of Music.  
 — Royal Opera, Covent Garden.  
 WED. Mr. Arnold Dolmetsch's Concert of Antiquarian Music, 8, Steinway Hall.  
 — Dramatic Performance, 'The Merchant of Venice,' 8, Royal Academy of Music.  
 — Royal Opera, Covent Garden.  
 THURS. Royal Academy of Music Students' Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.  
 — Royal Opera, Covent Garden.  
 FRI. Royal College of Music Orchestral Concert, 7.45.  
 — Royal Opera, Covent Garden.  
 SAT. Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

### DRAMA

#### THE WEEK.

HIS MAJESTY'S.—'The Silver Key,' a Comedy in Four Acts. By Sydney Grundy. Adapted from Alexandre Dumas.

MATINEE THEATRE.—Elizabethan Stage Society: 'Arden of Feversham'; 'The King and the Countess,' an Episode in the Play of 'Edward III.'

IN dealing with the defects of theatrical criticism, Alexandre Dumas (the younger, not the elder) says in one or other of his prefaces that the critic forgets that the dramatist knows beforehand, and has said to himself, all that the critic can tell him. This may well be true. It does not, however, dispense with the obligation on the critic—if he would vindicate, perhaps superfluously, his own existence—of facing the risk and writing what he thinks. It is probable that Mr. Grundy knows as well as we can tell him that the processes which proved effective in dealing with 'Les Petits Oiseaux' of Labiche and Delacour are less satisfactory when applied to a comic masterpiece such as is 'Mademoiselle de Belle-Isle.' 'A Pair of Spectacles' was a brilliant specimen of adaptation. 'The Silver Key' is to the comedy of Dumas what a pancake is to an *omelette soufflée*. A pancake has its place in gastronomy, and 'The Silver Key' may be seen by those who do not know 'Mademoiselle de Belle-Isle.' We are at a loss, however, to understand to what motive to assign the changes Mr. Grundy has made, as it seems, in a pure spirit of wantonness. What is more natural than that Gabrielle, upon hearing of the monstrous and dishonouring accusations to which she is subject, should demand from the Duke of Richelieu an explanation which she naturally believes will result in her complete exculpation? Such a demand is

made in good faith, and is answered by the Duke with a little embarrassment, but in what is practically a similar spirit. It is overheard by the lover, who naturally finds his worst suspicions confirmed. Mr. Grundy keeps the Chevalier on the stage during the interview, a position intolerable for him, and destructive of the value of the experiment. Richelieu has demanded, and probably by this time obtained, from his rival the thousand crowns which constitute the wager; to say that he had not won them would be to charge himself with cheating. It is quite obvious that the Duke, under such conditions, must hold his tongue. If it is supposed that some dishonour attends the overhearing of a conversation, the supposition is foreign to the spirit of the age and to that of comedy. Does not Sir Peter Teazle listen to the explanations of Charles Surface, and does any one blame him for so doing? This one illustration must suffice, since it is characteristic. Wherever Mr. Grundy has departed from his original he has gone astray; where he has stuck to it his work is at its best. The performance lacks distinction in nearly all cases and lightness in most. Mr. Lewis Waller goes furthest astray in making the Chevalier a grave, dignified, and somewhat saturnine man. Mrs. Tree presents us with a gracious and coquettish type of womanhood, and charges it with an individuality which is acceptable enough, but is not that of the Marquise de Prie. Neither in appearance nor in bearing did Mr. Charles Allan, the Duc d'Aumont, and Mr. Lionel Brough, the Chevalier d'Auvray, belong to the period of the play. They might rather have stepped out of the comedy of Molière. The Richelieu of Mr. Tree was decidedly the best performance. It lacked neither distinction nor impertinence, which are the chief attributes assigned it by Dumas. It might, perhaps, be a little more devil-may-care, though it may be remembered that at this period Richelieu had begun to regard gallantry rather as a means to further his ambition than as in itself an absorbing entertainment. The performance was received with favour. It will merit warmer praise when some change is made in the disposition of the business. The scene of dice-throwing went for nothing.

With a view to its production at the so-styled Matinée Theatre, 'Arden of Feversham' has been rather ruthlessly mangled and abridged. It cannot be said that any strong illumination is cast upon it by the stage presentation which, under these conditions, it has received. The entire action passes in the house of Arden, in which the murder is ultimately accomplished, and here the details of the crime are studied and arranged almost under the nose of the victim. This plan and the excision of all the outdoor scenes, in which the escapes of Arden are so frequent as to appear almost miraculous, deprive the whole of *vérité*. One is singularly impressed with the easy and cheerful manner in which the death of Arden is contemplated by all the numerous people to whom it is confided. In a fine passage in Mr. Swinburne's 'Bothwell,' Hay of Talla says, concerning the queen,

I have trod deep in the red wash o' the war  
 As who walks reddest, yet I could not sleep,  
 I doubt, with next night's dead man overhead.

No scruples of this kind beset any of the inhabitants of Arden's house, even to Susan Mosbie. The performance was amateurish.

The episode concerning Edward III. and the Countess of Salisbury in Roxburgh Castle is told inaccurately and at some length in Froissart, and is borrowed by Bandello. In 'The Palace of Pleasure,' whence the story was taken, conceivably, by Shakespeare and inserted in 'Edward III.,' the errors are corrected, and it is shown that it was the Black Prince, and not Edward III., who married the Countess. The dramatist adheres, however, to the Froissart version. Without being good enough, the performance of this short and noble fragment was much better than that of 'Arden of Feversham.' In both cases the dresses were good, and the whole from an educational standpoint had some charm. Those who are interested in the authorship of the play will find in the *Athenæum* of the 28th of March, 1874, an important letter from Payne Collier which is well worth reconsideration.

*The Case of Rebellious Susan: a Comedy in Three Acts.* By Henry Arthur Jones. (Macmillan & Co.)—Mr. Jones has ushered in with a satirical dedication to Mrs. Grundy his saucy and sparkling comedy 'The Case of Rebellious Susan.' In this he declines to advance any moral except that "as women cannot retaliate openly, they may retaliate secretly—and lie." He says, moreover, in a postscript, what in a sense is true, "My comedy isn't a comedy at all. It's a tragedy dressed up as a comedy"—a phrase that would be more significant if its application did not extend beyond a three-act play to a good deal of life, which is, said a predecessor of Mr. Jones, "a comedy to those who think, a tragedy to those who feel." Upon the production of this play at the Criterion we hailed it as among the best of Mr. Jones's works. This impression is fortified in perusal. Lady Susan, avowedly here "the woman who did," is a fresh, human, and sparkling creature, and her victory over her husband—who is typical in his way—is complete. All that is connected with the main plot is, indeed, excellent; the characters are well drawn, and the display of human nature, under existing social conditions, is good in all respects. We like less in perusal the underplot concerning the loves of Fergusson Pybus and Elaine Shrimpton. Characters corresponding to these may exist, but we have not met them. Lady Susan Harabin we can trace among our acquaintance, and the prototype of James Harabin may be found in every club smoking-room.

*Shakespeare: The Tempest.* Edited by F. S. Boas. (Blackie & Son.)—This is one of the "Warwick Shakespeare" series, which professes to make a special feature of literary criticism. It is, therefore, disappointing to find that the critical appreciation of the characters of the play is far from adequate. The section on Ariel is poor; his hint of fellow-feeling for humanity, which distinguishes him from Puck and which Tennyson has reproduced in his *Titania*, is entirely unnoticed. If the editor could not find room for more æsthetic criticism, he should at any rate have referred to sources where it is to be found. The notes, however, and glossary are very good, though they have obviously gained much from the work of predecessors. Mr. Boas might have added that Shakespeare's use of "genius" for the personified self is good Latin, and that Tennyson has ventured to use "pathos" for strong feeling, just as "passion" is used in this play. The derivation and use of "nimble" also deserved notice. The force of the allusion to Dido as widow is, perhaps, that she lost a husband by sea. This is naturally suggested

by the shipwreck and its supposed fatal consequences, of which Sebastian says in the same scene:—

— Milan and Naples have  
More widows in them of this business' making.

Nothing known as "broom" to-day (Cytisus or Genista) is of sufficient dimensions to make "broom-groves" (IV. i. 66), but rather than read "brown groves" we would suggest that groves of birch trees, which were used to make brooms or besoms, may be meant. The "pioned" of the same passage can hardly refer to peonies, which, though they are not necessarily the flowers used for the crowns of the nymphs in the passage, are not in blossom before or in April.

#### DOCUMENTS RELATING TO SHAKESPEARE.

IN looking over some suits of the reign of Charles I. the other day, I came across the following, which seems to have been unnoticed by the biographers of Shakespeare. I think it is of value. Additional light is thus thrown on "the eastern tenement," which Mr. Sidney Lee says "was let out to strangers for more than two centuries, and by them converted into an inn." The "one Shakespeare" first mentioned was the dramatist's father.

"The severall answeres of Thomas Willis, Defend't to the bill of Compt't of Allen Wastell Compt't."

"The said Defend't havinge saved to himselfe nowe and att all tymes hereafter the benefitt of excepcon to thuncerteintyes and insufficiencies of the said bill of Compt't for answer thereunto sayeth that hee thinketh and hopeth to prove that Edward Willis of Kingsnorton in the County of Wigorn' in the said bill of Compt't named was in his life time lawfully seised in his demesne as of fee and in two small burgages or tenementes with thapp'ten'es in Stratford upon Avon in the Countie of Warr' And beinge desirous to make the same one convenient dwelling And wantinge roome for that purpose Thereupon the said Edward Willis as this Defend't hopeth to make it appeare did about fortie yeares since purchase to him and his heires of and from one Shakespeare one parcell of land conteyninge aboute seaventeene foote square (as hee taketh it) next adjoyninge to one of the said burgages or tenementes, & which parcell of ground and backside this Def't conceiveth to be the parcell of ground or backside intended by the said bill And the said Edward Willis beinge seised in his demesne as of fee of & in the said two burgages or tenementes & parcell of ground Hee the said Edward Willis aboute fortie yeares since did make and erect one intire tenement upon a greate parte of the same And havinge soe made erected and converted the same into one tenement Thereupon and after the same was soe made into one tenement And had bene soe enjoyed for diverse yeares hee the said Edward Willis by the name of Edward Willis of Kingsnorton in the Countie of Worcester yoman by Deed indented bearinge date the twentieth daye of July in the seaventh yeare of the raigne of our late Sovereigne lord Kinge James of England aswell for the naturall love and affec'on which hee did beare unto Edward Willeyes of Honnesworth in the Countie of Staff Naylor his kinsman (beinge this Def't's brother) And for other good causes and reasonable considerac'ons him movinge did by the said Deed indented geve grante infeoffe convey assure and confirme to Thomas Osborne and Bartholomewe Austeyne and their heires All the said two burgages or tenementes and parcell of ground and backside (as this Def't conceiveth) by these or the like names videl't All that messuage or tenement and burgage with thapp'ten'es called the Bell heretofore the signe of the Bell heretofore used or occupied in twoe tenementes scituate and beinge in Stratford upon Avon in the Countie of Warr' in a streete there comonly called Henley Streete and nowe or late in the tenure or occupac'on of Robert Brookes or of his assignes or undertenantes betweene the tenement of Thomas Horneby on the east parte and the tenement late of William Shakespeare on the West parte and the king's highe way called Gilpittes on the north parte Together with all gardens edifices howses barnes stables and buyldings easementes profittes com'ons and comodities whatsoever to the said messuage tenement or burgage and premisses or to any parte or parcell thereof belonginge," &c.

This answer was sworn by the defendant, Thomas Willis, at Walsall, co. Stafford, on the 9th of October, 14 Car. I. (i. e., 1638). The other documents in the suit are unhappily mis-

ing. Nor does the deed of July 20th, 1609, appear on the Close Roll of the period.

ERNEST G. ATKINSON.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

MADAME BERNHARDT's farewell performance took place on Wednesday at the Adelphi in Marguerite Gautier, and on the following day she began at Portsmouth a short country tour, in the course of which she will also be seen in Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Bradford, and Leeds. Her performance on Tuesday of Mrs. Clarkson in 'L'Etrangère' attracted one of the most brilliant audiences of the season.

WITH the departure of the foreign artists the season may be held to have finished. Madame Bernhardt cut 'Adrienne Lecouvreur' out of her programme, and contented herself with giving a few representations of 'L'Etrangère.' Madame Réjane has definitely abandoned the idea of producing 'La Maison de Poupee,' which was to be a special feature in her programme, and finished her engagement at the Lyric in 'Madame Sans-Gêne.'

MISS MARION TERRY will reappear at the Adelphi in the forthcoming Waterloo drama of Mr. Comyns Carr and Mr. Haddon Chambers, for which Mr. Cartwright and Mr. H. Nicholls have also been engaged.

THE termination of the Haymarket season is fixed for the 24th inst. The run of 'A Marriage of Convenience' will be resumed on September 4th, when the house will reopen.

A NEW comedy by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones will be produced by Mr. Wyndham at the Criterion in September.

SIR HENRY IRVING reappeared as Shylock and Miss Terry as Portia in a performance of 'The Merchant of Venice' given on Thursday at the Lyceum for the International Congress of Librarians.

#### MISCELLANEA

*A Couple of Scott Queries.*—In a letter now in my possession, addressed by Joanna Baillie to George Thomson, the correspondent of Burns, in January, 1838, there is the following passage: "We have, like yourself, been very much occupied with the sixth volume of Sir Walter Scott's 'Life'; particularly the very interesting Diary has touched us pleasantly and painfully. I cannot answer your question as to who was the munificent friend who offered the 30,000, on the failure of his affairs, but it has been supposed to be the late Lord Dudley, and it probably was him."

Lord Dudley's name has, I believe, been talked of in connexion with the generous offer. Has it ever been definitely ascertained that he was the "munificent friend"? Lockhart, of course, knew the name, but, so far at least as the 'Life' is concerned, left it a secret.—In a letter written to George Thomson on July 23rd, 1806, Scott says: "In case you have not seen the enclosed squib, I beg your acceptance of a copy. It has made much noise in London." What was the squib? That it was from Scott's own pen seems to me almost certain from the words used by Thomson in acknowledging it. "I had seen your squib before," he says, "and am glad to possess a copy." Mr. Andrew Lang suggests to me in a courteous note that "your squib" might mean simply "the squib you send." That is possible, of course, but I do not think it probable. Mr. Lang's alternative suggestion that Scott refers to 'The Miseries of Human Life' (Lockhart, iii. 2) is more likely to be correct. I shall be glad of any further light on both points.

J. CUTHBERT HADDEN.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. S. O.—J. L.—A. A. M.—E. B. N.—N. P.—E. E. S.—received.  
A. H. G.—We cannot undertake to answer such questions.

Erratum.—No. 3637, p. 68, col. 2, line 31, for "Moldan" read Mordan.

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